



FFY 2007 Children and Family Services

(October 1, 2006-September 30, 2007)

Statistical Bulletin



Safety, Permanency, and Well-being

John Hoeven-Governor/Carol K. Olson-Executive Director

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Table of Contents

Child Abuse and Neglect _____	3
Introduction _____	3
Full Assessment Trends _____	3
Full Assessment Reports by Region _____	4
Full and Administrative Assessments _____	11
Administrative Assessment _____	12
Source of Initial Report _____	14
Family Stress Factors _____	16
Services Provided or Arranged Post-Assessment _____	18
Reported Child Victim Population in North Dakota _____	19
Confirmed (Services Required) Child Victim Population in North Dakota _____	19
Child Abuse and Neglect: Victim Gender _____	20
Child Abuse and Neglect: Victim Age _____	21
Child Abuse and Neglect: Victim Race _____	22
Numbers of Reported and Confirmed Victims by County and Region _____	22
Types of Child Maltreatment _____	24
Maltreatment and Gender _____	26
Maltreatment and Age _____	27
Reported Adult Subject Population in North Dakota _____	28
Subject Gender _____	29
Subject Age _____	29
Subject Race _____	31
Subject Employment and Public Assistance Status _____	31
Safety Permanency Funds _____	33
Child Fatality _____	34
2006 Trends _____	35
Unintentional Injury Deaths _____	35
Natural Deaths _____	36
Suicide Deaths _____	36
Homicide Deaths _____	36
Deaths Where the Manner Could Not Be Determined _____	36
Long Term Trend _____	37
Institutional Child Abuse and Neglect _____	38
Foster Care _____	43
Introduction _____	43
North Dakota Foster Care Children _____	43
Gender and Foster Care _____	44
Age and Foster Care _____	44
Foster Care Disparities by Race _____	45
Custody and Placement Types _____	46
Permanency Goals and Discharge Reason _____	48
Reunification _____	49
Recidivism _____	50
Waiting Children (Termination of Parental Rights but no Adoption) _____	51
Subsidized Guardianship Program _____	52
Independent Living _____	53
Education Training Voucher (E.T.V.) Program _____	55
Foster Teen Conference _____	55

Youth Stakeholders Meetings _____	55
Refugee _____	56
Adoption _____	57
Introduction _____	57
North Dakota Adoptions _____	58
North Dakota Finalized Agency Adopted Children _____	58
Gender and Adoption _____	58
Age and Adoption _____	59
Adoption by Race _____	60
Finalized Agency Adoptions _____	60
Special Needs _____	61
Adoption of Children with Special Needs by Foster Parents _____	62
Head Start and Early Head Start _____	65
Early Childhood Services _____	68

List of Tables

1. North Dakota Child Abuse & Neglect Full Assessment Reports _____	5
2. Child Abuse & Neglect Reports _____	11
3. Child Abuse & Neglect Full Assessments and Services Required Decisions by Source _____	15
4. Family Stress Factors _____	17
5. Services Provided by Assessment Type _____	18
6. Number and Percent of Reported ND Child Abuse and Neglect Victims by Age _____	21
7. Number of Full Assessments with Reported and Confirmed Victims by County _____	23
8. Aggregate Number of Full Assessments and Reported Victims by Region _____	24
9. Number of Specific Types of Reported and Confirmed Maltreatment _____	25
10. North Dakota Child Fatality Review Panel Number of Reviews _____	34
11. Child Deaths by Year _____	37

List of Figures

1. Number of Child Abuse & Neglect Full Assessments, 1976-2007	4
2. Full and Administrative Assessments	11
3. Number of Administrative Assessments and Referrals	12
4. Number of Administrative Assessment and Referrals by Region	13
5. Number of Administrative Assessments and Referrals by Reason	13
6. Number of Reported Victims	19
7. Number of Reported Victims by Gender	20
8. Number of Victims Identified in Services Required Cases	20
9. Percent of Reported Victims by Age	21
10. Percent of Reported Victims by Race	22
11. Percent of Reported and Confirmed Child Maltreatment by Type	26
12. Gender of Confirmed Victims by Maltreatment Type (Percent)	27
13. Percent of Confirmed Victims by Maltreatment Type by Age Range	27
14. Number of Reported Subjects	28
15. Number of Victims and Subjects Involved in Services Required Assessments	29
16. Percent of US and ND Subjects by Gender	29
17. Percent of US and ND Perpetrators by Age	30
18. Percent of ND Adults in the General Population	30
19. Subject Race by Percent	31
20. Percent of Subjects by Employment Status	32
21. Percent of Subjects by Public Assistance Status	32
22. North Dakota Child Fatality Review Panel's Classifications of the Manner of Death for 2006	35
23. Unintentional Injury Deaths	36
24. Number of Child Deaths by Manner of Death	37
25. Number of Institutional Child Abuse & Neglect Reports by Facility	38
26. Suspected Maltreatment Type by Total Reports	39
27. Facility Type by Number of Reports by Determination	40
28. Maltreatment Type by Indicated Determination	40
29. Unduplicated Number of ND Children in Foster Care	43
30. Percent of Children by Gender in US & ND Foster Care Population	44
31. Percent of Children by Age Range in US & ND Foster Care Population	45
32. Percent of Children by Race in the ND Foster Foster Care Population	45
33. Percent of ND Foster Care Children by Custodian	46
34. Number of Children in the Custody of County/DHS by Foster Care Placement Type in FFY 2007	47
35. Percent of ND Foster Care Children by Placement Type on Last Day of FFY	47
36. Percent of ND Foster Care Children by Permanency Goal on Last Dat of FFY	48
37. Number of ND Foster Care Children by Discharge Reason on Last Day of FFY	49
38. Percent of ND Foster Care Children by Reunification Status in Less Than a Year	49
39. Number of Reunified Foster Care Children by Number of Prior Placement Settings	50
40. Twelve Month Recidivism for Foster Care Children Admitted in FFY 2007	50
41. Status of Children with Parents Who Terminated Their Parental Rights	51
42. Number of Subsidized Guardianships by Month	52
43. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Program	54
44. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Gender	54
45. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Race	54
46. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Age	55

47. Number of Refugees Entering North Dakota, 2000-2008	56
48. Number of Children by Type of Adoption	58
49. Percent of Finalized Agency Adoptions in ND & US by Gender	59
50. Percent of Adopted Children in ND & US by Age Range	59
51. Percent of ND Adopted Children by Race	60
52. Number of Finalized Agency Adoptions by Type	61
53. Number of Finalized Adoptions by Special Needs Type	62
54. Adoptions by Foster Parents of Children with Special Needs	62
55. Percent of Actual Enrollees in Head Start & Early Head Start by Age	65
56. Percent of Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start by Race	65
57. Percent of Uninsured Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start by Time of Year	66
58. Number of Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start Who Were Diagnosed as Needing Medical or Dental Treatment and Who Received Needed Treatment	66
59. Families with Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start by Family Type	67
60. Percent of Referral Requests by Child Age	68
61. Licensed Child Care Program Type, Workforce, and Capacity	69
62. Reasons for Seeking Child Care	69
63. Total Enrollment by License Type	70
64. Client Level of Satisfaction with Child Care (Percent)	70

Children & Family Services: Safety

- ☐ Child Abuse & Neglect
- ☐ Safety Permanency Funds
- ☐ Child Fatality
- ☐ Institutional Abuse & Neglect

Child Abuse and Neglect

Introduction

The North Dakota Child Protection Services Program is state supervised and county administered with the purpose of:

- ☐ Protecting the health and welfare of children by encouraging the reporting of children who are known to be, or suspected of, being abused or neglected;
- ☐ Providing adequate services for the protection and treatment of abused and neglected children and to protect them from further harm;
- ☐ Identifying the causes of children's deaths, where possible; and
- ☐ Identifying those circumstances that contribute to children's deaths, and recommending changes in policy, practices, and law to prevent children's deaths.

This section focuses on children who were reported victims of child abuse and neglect during FFY 2007 (October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007). Anyone can report suspicions of abuse or neglect by submitting a verbal or written report, referred to as a "960", to their county social service office. When the county social service office receives a report of suspected child abuse or neglect the following occurs:

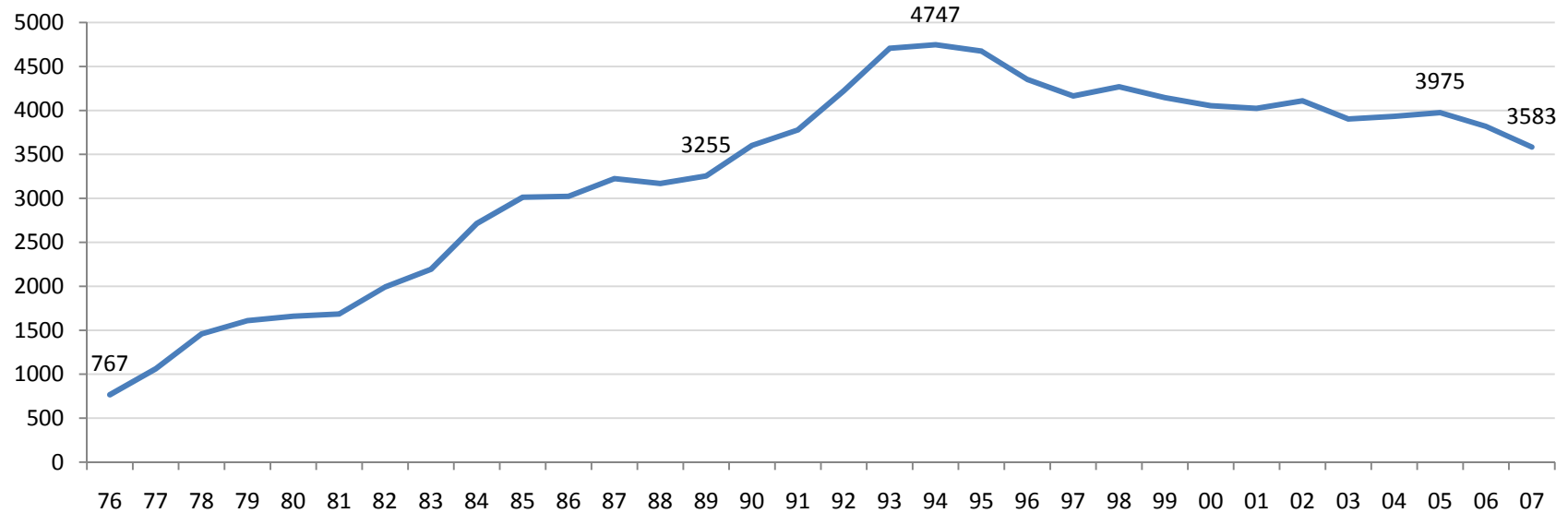
- ☐ Analysis of the information in the report to determine what actions to take for an assessment;
- ☐ Assessment of the concerns in the report to find the facts;
- ☐ Decision about whether services are required for the protection and treatment of an abused or neglected child;
- ☐ Referral to juvenile court for review if services are determined to be required; and
- ☐ Provision of protective services to the family such as parenting education, counseling, supporting services, and foster care.

The following sections include the number of completed full and administrative assessments, the reporting source, family stress factors, services provided to families, type of maltreatment, and victim and subject demographics.

Full Assessment Trends

A full assessment is a fact finding process designed to provide information that enables a determination to be made that services are required to provide for the protection and treatment of an abused or neglected child. From 1976 (N=767) to 1987 (N=3,225), full assessments increased annually in number. There was a slight plateau in the mid-1980s with gradual increases until the numbers peaked at 4,747 in 1994 (Figure 1). There has been a steady decline since 1994. There were 3,583 full assessments completed in 2007, representing a 10% decrease since 2005.

Figure 1. Number of Child Abuse & Neglect Full Assessments, 1976-2007



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (FY 1976-1994; CY 1995-2003; FFY 2004-2007). Note: The state fiscal year (FY) runs from July through June. The calendar year (CY) runs from January through December. The federal fiscal year (FFY) runs from October through September.

Full Assessment Reports by Region

Table 1 indicates the number of full assessments by county, designated by region. The full assessments for each region are depicted on two timelines depending on the year; 1976-1991 and 1992-2007. This timeline is beneficial for administrators not only to assess county numbers and manage trend data, but also evaluate side-by-side comparisons with other counties of similar size.

Table 1. North Dakota Child Abuse & Neglect Full Assessment Reports

Region I																
Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Divide	3	19	3	14	6	9	17	11	10	15	13	6	9	11	12	12
McKenzie	4	5	13	17	13	22	18	26	13	20	26	23	26	25	9	16
Williams	25	31	42	60	74	67	141	135	197	211	168	174	142	178	149	173
TOTAL	32	55	58	91	93	98	176	172	220	246	207	203	177	214	170	201
Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Divide	12	9	13	10	9	8	12	12	8	5	14	8	6	8	9	11
McKenzie	25	29	15	21	24	16	30	21	17	12	15	15	14	16	28	10
Williams	218	257	226	182	157	121	132	127	135	155	173	175	140	136	135	109
TOTAL	255	295	254	213	190	145	174	160	160	172	202	198	160	160	172	130
Region II																
Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Bottineau	4	14	7	5	13	10	15	24	38	47	29	25	31	24	23	20
Burke	3	3	5	3	2	3	4	7	15	9	4	9	4	20	11	9
McHenry	17	9	22	13	12	16	11	18	26	18	27	25	34	19	21	36
Mountrail	6	8	4	4	15	8	24	37	36	26	33	48	11	25	22	28
Pierce	9	11	5	10	5	8	11	16	10	26	23	21	16	18	17	14
Renville	6	3	2	3	2	4	4	5	3	10	7	5	3	7	2	6
Ward	137	215	227	209	275	269	308	315	362	352	384	455	415	500	517	551
TOTAL	182	263	272	247	324	318	377	422	490	488	507	588	514	613	613	664
Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Bottineau	20	25	24	32	34	30	36	19	30	29	22	23	16	17	22	26
Burke	11	16	4	12	3	8	7	9	4	9	5	6	10	12	6	10
McHenry	38	29	29	37	32	42	26	27	21	17	27	25	23	24	17	23
Mountrail	18	28	24	14	11	24	21	21	9	17	27	21	14	23	23	25
Pierce	22	12	17	21	12	18	14	16	17	16	16	16	14	14	19	15
Renville	4	10	6	16	6	5	5	6	5	2	3	10	4	8	8	17
Ward	614	624	552	530	494	523	552	554	506	522	527	528	602	558	476	488
TOTAL	727	744	656	662	592	650	661	652	592	612	627	629	683	656	571	604

Region III

Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Benson	5	7	7	9	7	12	16	18	32	34	30	23	38	17	6	13
Cavalier	5	10	27	14	6	12	5	13	12	12	14	19	8	14	22	18
Eddy	3	4	4	3	11	5	2	6	7	4	3	4	11	5	12	11
Ramsey	9	12	25	38	32	46	42	48	74	94	69	71	83	104	103	111
Rollette	39	30	95	40	78	63	51	73	74	83	112	94	90	60	45	41
Towner	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	3	12	16	10	15	18	17	10	14
TOTAL	61	63	161	106	135	138	116	161	211	243	238	226	248	217	198	208

Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Benson	19	19	13	22	6	13	22	10	8	11	9	14	10	8	9	9
Cavalier	20	21	18	22	28	16	13	8	12	13	11	4	10	11	13	7
Eddy	7	16	12	11	9	20	11	4	6	4	5	5	--	--	--	--
Ramsey	119	149	126	148	113	103	111	106	98	90	107	115	119	97	91	87
Rollette	48	41	40	56	61	56	44	51	48	39	55	42	53	62	49	42
Towner	17	19	15	13	20	18	23	14	8	10	13	15	15	13	12	3
TOTAL	230	265	224	272	237	226	224	193	180	167	200	195	207	191	174	148

Note: Eddy County is under Region VI as of July 1, 2003.

Region IV

Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
G. Forks	103	174	224	244	194	193	185	208	228	285	273	304	356	385	467	513
Nelson	5	3	8	6	5	5	4	3	8	9	19	14	12	12	19	20
Pembina	8	13	14	18	27	36	46	22	41	57	42	38	50	46	75	49
Walsh	20	18	27	43	35	22	32	37	60	54	46	45	51	71	99	106
TOTAL	136	208	273	311	261	256	267	270	337	405	380	401	469	514	660	688

Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
G. Forks	564	617	693	644	636	594	667	594	609	571	589	530	513	513	478	421
Nelson	32	29	29	16	10	20	22	26	20	16	19	18	9	11	8	10
Pembina	67	76	57	61	51	57	45	46	42	41	46	38	50	37	25	30
Walsh	133	125	125	107	116	138	100	77	104	107	92	91	84	82	62	74
TOTAL	796	847	904	828	813	809	834	743	775	735	746	677	656	643	573	535

Region V

Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Cass	70	127	212	254	200	193	172	293	360	388	442	547	625	604	693	774
Ransom	10	9	12	15	11	12	6	11	16	20	6	11	15	17	21	29
Richland	10	16	27	29	40	62	76	56	57	56	80	97	70	56	73	104
Sargent	3	4	5	3	13	9	8	14	9	11	15	26	27	16	12	15
Steele	0	1	1	3	1	2	3	4	0	9	4	5	3	0	0	1
Traill	7	3	6	12	9	12	8	9	16	30	41	43	33	25	31	44
TOTAL	100	160	263	316	274	290	273	387	458	514	588	729	773	718	830	967
Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Cass	800	909	1138	1113	1012	946	978	1030	1064	991	981	914	953	1017	1044	927
Ransom	20	30	27	18	42	19	8	9	11	23	16	12	12	18	13	8
Richland	115	115	88	124	129	115	128	99	73	94	104	71	52	80	89	96
Sargent	17	13	16	19	16	16	12	19	14	10	16	13	11	7	11	7
Steele	4	0	4	9	11	6	5	12	9	6	3	2	4	3	2	4
Traill	38	45	55	55	45	41	39	36	24	40	44	26	16	17	21	13
TOTAL	994	1112	1328	1338	1255	1143	1170	1205	1195	1164	1164	1038	1048	1142	1180	1055

Region VI

Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Barnes	6	14	13	16	16	11	30	20	34	44	48	41	44	31	36	38
Dickey	10	14	17	10	21	19	21	28	13	28	14	10	25	21	19	17
Foster	3	9	8	14	11	3	8	5	8	13	7	10	6	9	11	11
Griggs	1	3	2	1	0	4	5	10	9	6	7	11	7	14	15	6
LaMoure	5	4	9	13	9	17	5	10	10	7	10	13	11	8	10	14
Logan	4	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	4	1	3	2	0	2	1	2
McIntosh	2	1	2	5	1	0	6	2	2	5	4	6	9	1	3	7
Stutsman	35	65	81	98	110	110	110	94	129	115	115	121	114	121	132	105
Wells	2	9	8	17	8	16	7	17	21	9	15	18	13	17	12	4
TOTAL	68	121	141	176	179	183	195	189	230	228	223	232	229	224	239	204
Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Barnes	47	46	54	55	55	54	53	66	52	54	57	50	50	32	46	45
Dickey	19	31	22	29	26	24	24	18	15	16	13	12	16	18	29	18
Eddy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	8	6	7
Foster	7	11	14	14	15	15	17	8	6	13	11	11	11	11	6	7
Griggs	9	10	12	10	14	12	12	12	6	7	7	13	4	1	4	3
LaMoure	10	18	15	10	13	6	10	11	8	12	19	13	8	13	14	7
Logan	2	3	2	3	2	4	3	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	1
McIntosh	9	14	12	15	5	7	5	1	8	4	9	14	12	5	--	--
Stutsman	116	136	113	136	109	102	106	114	101	118	103	96	123	104	97	102
Wells	9	9	12	15	14	15	18	9	10	10	14	11	20	22	11	16
TOTAL	228	278	256	287	253	239	248	240	206	234	236	221	248	215	213	206

Note: McIntosh County is under Region VIII as of July 1, 2005.

Region VII

Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Burleigh	86	91	116	131	138	161	222	230	295	392	406	384	326	328	405	407
Emmons	5	2	11	8	9	5	11	10	12	12	8	14	15	12	13	11
Grant	2	1	3	3	1	2	7	12	6	5	6	1	15	10	11	4
Kidder	3	6	14	10	6	3	4	7	9	12	9	5	6	7	10	5
McLean	9	8	19	18	27	31	49	49	69	50	56	70	38	60	35	35
Mercer	4	7	8	27	31	44	53	62	97	93	78	63	39	36	44	25
Morton	35	30	47	58	58	70	112	92	110	143	124	120	122	127	116	134
Oliver	2	1	1	3	1	2	11	7	6	0	5	2	4	4	7	7
Sheridan	1	0	3	6	5	2	0	6	4	8	8	2	7	2	3	4
Sioux	2	1	4	7	4	4	3	1	4	8	7	7	3	1	1	0
TOTAL	149	147	226	271	280	324	472	476	612	723	707	668	575	587	645	632

Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Burleigh	478	525	556	508	471	426	438	455	467	410	433	450	477	503	460	446
Emmons	8	19	9	13	9	12	8	14	5	5	1	4	13	6	4	6
Grant	7	6	2	9	7	8	6	7	5	4	7	12	6	5	4	6
Kidder	7	10	11	17	11	9	19	9	11	15	12	10	10	6	12	11
McIntosh	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8	13
McLean	35	37	37	37	30	26	17	24	23	21	27	15	16	20	12	9
Mercer	23	22	29	34	32	20	22	23	23	20	26	20	19	13	13	24
Morton	184	200	219	192	172	180	214	196	198	223	191	192	181	171	172	165
Oliver	6	8	10	5	4	12	10	8	3	5	7	4	4	4	0	3
Sheridan	4	5	9	4	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	1	4	2	6	6
Sioux	0	3	5	3	0	2	2	1	0	1	2	5	8	1	2	1
TOTAL	752	835	887	822	740	699	741	741	738	708	709	713	738	731	693	690

Region VIII

Year	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
Adams	3	0	5	9	5	2	6	3	10	7	9	7	10	4	11	11
Billings	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	1	4	8	4
Billings/G.Valley*	2	2	5	8	12	4	7	10	17	1	6	--	--	--	--	--
Bowman	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	15	11	8	9	18
Bowman/Slope*	0	6	7	9	1	55	9	7	13	16	19	--	--	--	--	--
G. Valley	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14	5	4	3	5
Hettinger	1	4	5	2	5	7	3	2	0	2	5	8	8	5	3	3
Slope	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	2	3	0	4
Stark	25	26	37	43	83	57	81	88	100	122	120	124	137	126	177	155
TOTAL	31	38	59	71	106	125	106	110	140	148	159	168	174	166	211	200

Year	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Adams	12	13	9	11	7	10	8	9	4	12	12	9	10	9	8	4
Billings	7	8	3	4	6	2	2	2	1	1	2	5	4	3	2	1
Bowman	26	28	5	12	14	11	11	5	2	1	7	3	17	13	11	9
Dunn	16	20	10	15	16	9	13	18	10	10	11	15	13	6	15	9
G. Valley	4	7	7	6	8	15	4	7	5	8	11	6	10	9	12	11
Hettinger	12	14	8	9	10	8	8	4	7	5	4	1	8	10	10	7
Slope	3	0	1	6	1	0	2	3	0	1	1	0	3	3	2	2
Stark	159	241	195	201	210	199	169	163	179	193	177	193	157	184	183	172
TOTAL	239	331	238	264	272	254	217	211	208	231	225	232	222	237	243	215

*These counties were combined through June 1986. They were reported separately beginning in July 1986. AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (FY 1976-1994; CY 1995-2003; FFY 2004-2007). Note: The state fiscal year (FY) runs from July through June. The calendar year (CY) runs from January through December. The federal fiscal year (FFY) runs from October through September.

Full and Administrative Assessments

While the number of full assessment reports decreased by 13% from 1999 to 2007, the number of administrative assessments reports increased by 49% during the same time period (Figure 2).

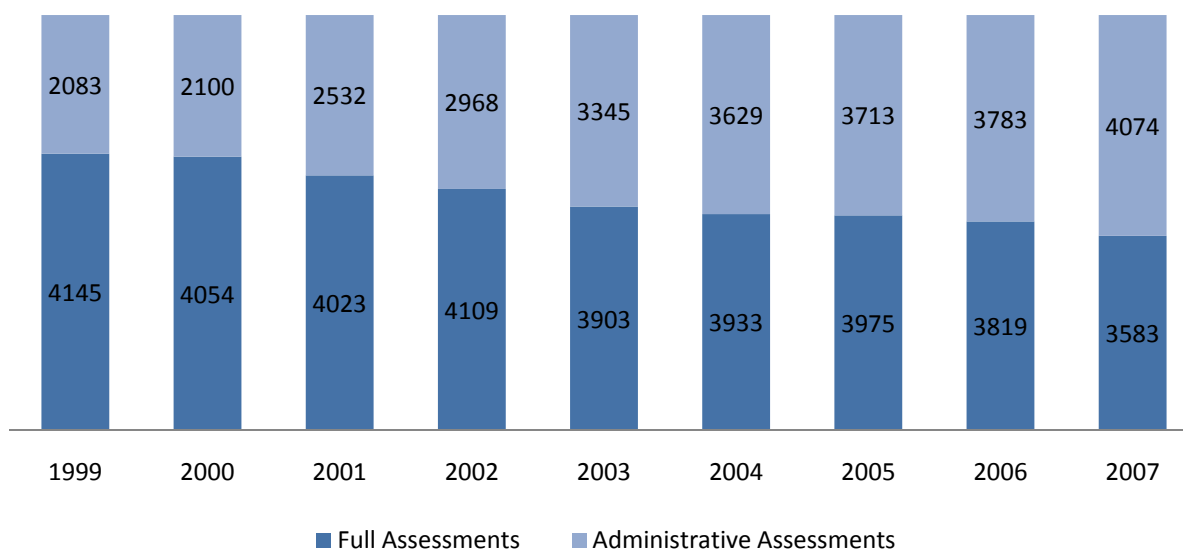
Table 2. Child Abuse & Neglect Reports

An administrative assessment is the process of documenting reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that do not meet the criteria for a full CPS assessment. The number of administrative assessments and full assessments equates to the total number of reports. Table 2 indicates the total number of reports were 7,657 in 2007.

Year	Total reports
1999	6,228
2000	6,154
2001	6,555
2002	7,077
2003	7,248
2004	7,562
2005	7,688
2006	7,602
2007	7,657

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect. (CY 1999-2003; FFY 2004-2007).

Figure 2. Full and Administrative Assessments

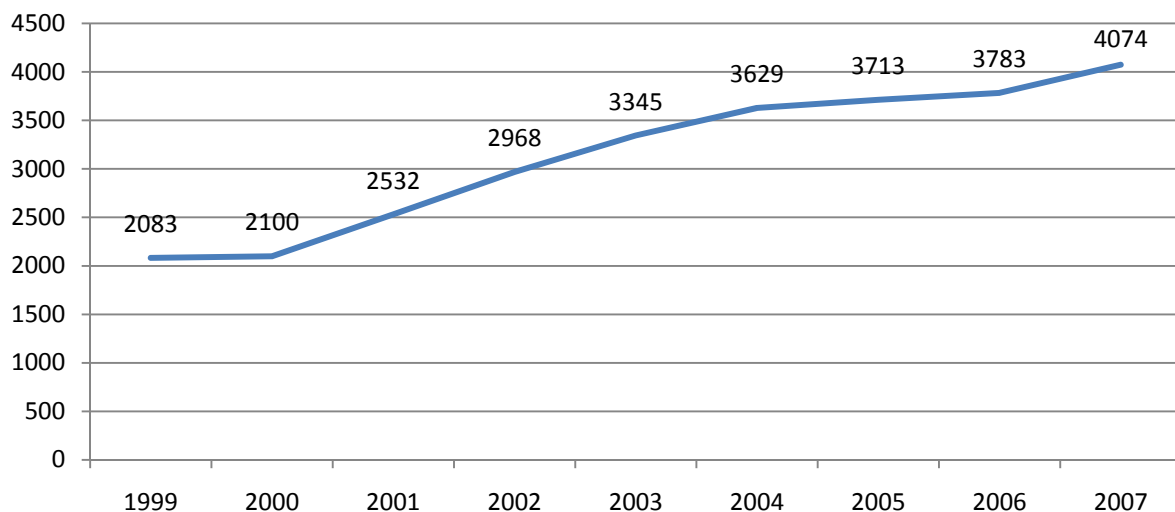


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (CY 1999-2003; FFY 2004-2007).

Administrative Assessment

An administrative assessment is the process of analyzing and documenting reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that do not meet the criteria for a full CPS assessment. An administrative referral is the process of documenting the referral of reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that fall outside the jurisdiction of the county where the report is received. Figure 3 illustrates the gradual increase in the number of administrative assessment and referrals handled by CPS.

Figure 3. Number of Administrative Assessments and Referrals

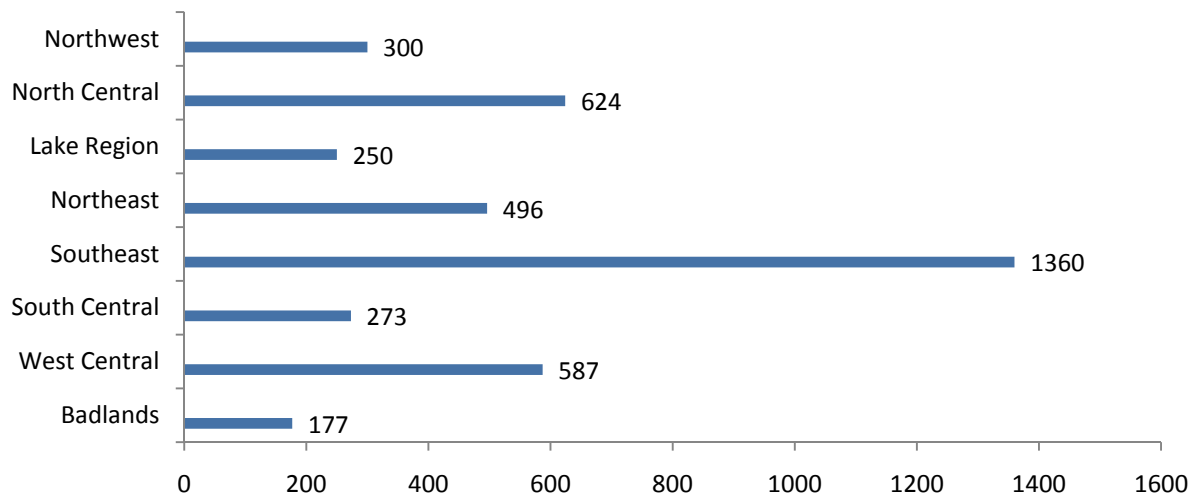


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (CY 1999-2003; FFY 2004-2007).

Figure 4 separates the volume of administrative assessments and referrals by region in North Dakota. The Southeast region far surpasses other regions in sheer number of administrative assessments and referrals, outweighing the Badlands, South Central, Lake Region, and Northwest regions by one-third.

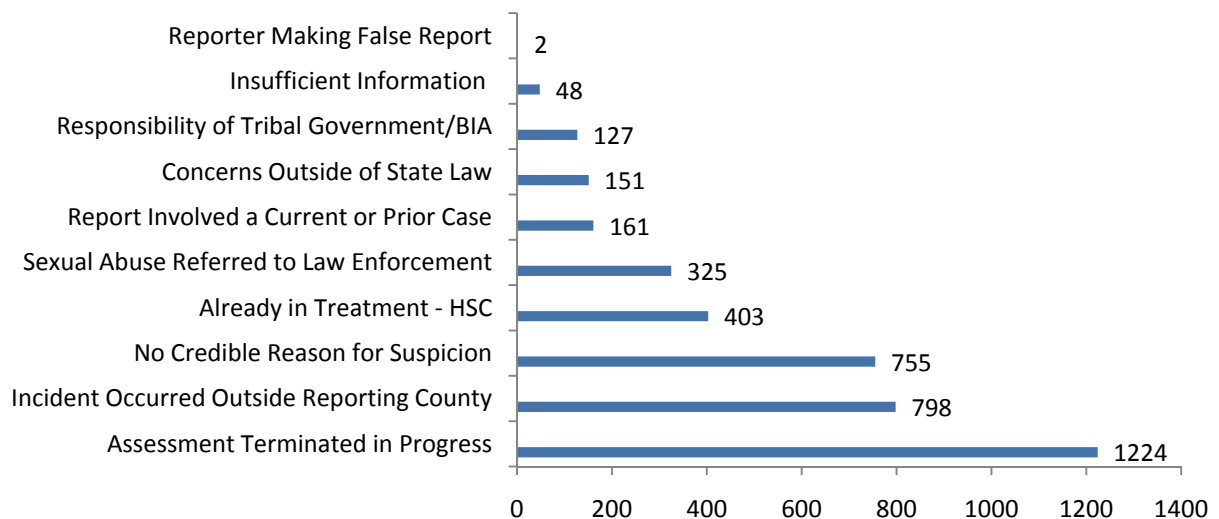
The ten reported reasons for administrative assessments and referrals are shown in Figure 5. An assessment terminated in progress was the most frequent reason for an administrative assessment. Two other common reasons are: 1) the incident was reported in a county other than the one where the child is located, and 2) no credible reason for suspicion of child maltreatment is contained within the report.

Figure 4. Number of Administrative Assessment and Referrals by Region



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=4,067).

Figure 5. Number of Administrative Assessments and Referrals by Reason



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=4,067).

Source of Initial Report

The full assessment is a comprehensive inquiry by Child Protective Services (CPS) into the child abuse and neglect “960” report. The two potential case decision outcomes are services required or no services required.

- ☐ Services required – A CPS assessment decision, reflecting the belief that a child has been abused or neglected and requires the juvenile court be notified.
- ☐ No services required – A CPS assessment decision, reflecting the belief that a child has not been abused or neglected.
 - Services recommended – A CPS assessment decision reflecting the belief that a child has not been abused or neglected, but the family may be in need of preventative services.

Table 3 lists the number of services required decisions and full assessments by each referral source type. Mandated reporters are those required by law to report knowledge of or suspicions that a child is abused or neglected, or has died as a result of abuse or neglect. Included in the table is a list of reporters. Although anyone can report suspicions of child abuse and neglect, the majority of reports (71%) originate with “mandated reporters.” Non-mandatory reporters are indicated with an asterisk. The percent is calculated by the number of source referrals divided by the total number of full assessments for the given year. In FFY 2007, out of the 3,583 full assessments, 660 cases required services, which represented 18% of all cases referred to CPS.

Table 3. Child Abuse & Neglect Full Assessments and Services Required Decisions by Source

	Services Required		Full Assessments	
	#	%	#	%
LAW ENFORCEMENT AND LEGAL PERSONNEL				
Police/Sheriff	190	29	827	23
Courts, Attorneys	4	0	20	1
Parole/Probation	14	2	56	2
Emergency Services personnel	0	0	2	0
Other Law Enforcement personnel	12	2	30	1
MEDICAL PERSONNEL				
Private Physician	1	0	9	0
Clinic/Hospital Physician	16	2	52	2
ND Health Tracks	1	0	3	0
Nurse	13	2	56	2
Medical Social Worker	28	4	105	3
Other Medical personnel	2	0	33	1
SCHOOL PERSONNEL				
School Nurse	1	0	7	0
Teacher	16	2	108	3
Principal	28	4	184	5
School Social Worker	25	4	104	3
School Counselor	35	6	256	7
Other School Personnel	12	2	72	2
SOCIAL SERVICES PERSONNEL				
Social Worker	46	7	167	5
Mental Health Professional-other than HSC	10	2	85	2
Human Service Center staff	22	3	113	3
Domestic Violence staff	11	2	104	3
Addiction staff (other than HSC)	2	0	15	0
Other social service personnel	6	1	48	1
DJS personnel	0	0	7	0
NON-AGENCY PERSONS				
Non-Custodial Parent*	15	2	131	4
Friend, Neighbor*	34	6	208	6
Victim*	6	1	18	1
Custodial Parent*	20	3	137	4
Subject of the Report*	1	0	6	0
Clergy	0	0	3	0
Other Family Member*	37	6	213	6
CHILD CARE PROVIDER				
Child Care Center staff	1	0	26	1
Pre-School/Nursery School staff	0	0	9	0
Child Care Home	3	0	26	1
Babysitter	2	0	8	0
Institutional staff	0	0	9	0
Foster Parent	2	0	5	0
Other Child Care Provider	1	0	7	0
OTHER				
Anonymous*	14	2	124	3
Other*	29	4	190	5
Total	660	100	3583	100

Note: Other indicates a non-mandatory reporter who is not in the categories listed above. AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (FFY 2007).

Family Stress Factors

Do family stress factors influence the likelihood of child abuse and neglect? The following data exhibit that families in which child maltreatment is assessed, face multiple hardships. Table 4 captures a snapshot of the family stress factors by case decision. The table categorizes stress factors by health, economic or living conditions, family interaction problems, and other risk factors. The family stress factor data is duplicated, meaning that there can be more than one stress factor in a home assessed for child abuse and neglect. For example, a case decision of services required may apply to a family who is experiencing family stress factors due to pregnancy, insufficient income, and methamphetamine use by caregiver. In FFY 2007 there were 13,023 stress factors. Family interaction problems and health-related problems comprised 48% and 30%, respectively, of all family stress factors with completed full assessments. Families who received full assessments in 2007 had, on average, 3.6 stress factors present. This is a slight decrease from 2005 and 2006 when families who received full assessments averaged 3.7 stress factors present.

Table 4. Family Stress Factors

	Services Required		No Services Required		Services Recommended		Full Assessments	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HEALTH PROBLEMS-CAREGIVER								
Mental/Emotional Health problem	273	24	172	27	595	27	1040	26
Alcohol/Drug misuse	332	30	100	16	584	26	1016	26
Meth use	83	8	16	3	60	3	159	4
Medical/Physical Disability	48	4	48	8	134	6	230	6
Mental Retardation	9	1	9	1	22	1	40	1
HEALTH PROBLEMS-CHILD								
Mental/Emotional Health problem	251	22	171	27	544	24	966	24
Alcohol/Drug misuse	46	4	28	5	95	4	169	4
Medical/Physical Disability	34	3	44	7	76	4	154	4
Mental Retardation	11	1	18	3	32	1	61	1
Meth use	2	0	3	0	5	0	10	0
OTHER HEALTH PROBLEMS								
Other	35	3	20	3	94	4	149	4
Total Health Problems	1124	100	629	100	2241	100	3994	100
ECONOMIC OR LIVING CONDITIONS								
Insufficient Income	101	19	51	27	191	23	343	22
Job Related problems	78	15	41	22	154	19	273	18
Transient or Unstable Living Conditions	116	22	27	14	120	14	263	17
Social Isolation	55	10	19	10	109	13	183	12
Inadequate Housing	93	18	11	6	84	10	188	12
Other Economic problems	50	10	31	17	135	16	216	14
Mismanagement of Income	32	6	7	4	42	5	81	5
Total Economic or Living Conditions	525	100	187	100	835	100	1547	100
FAMILY INTERACTION FACTORS								
Single Parent	270	17	287	28	677	19	1234	20
Family Interaction risks	177	12	178	18	525	14	880	14
Inability to Cope with Parenting Responsibility	303	20	70	7	472	13	845	14
Relationship Problems/Instability	186	12	135	13	514	14	835	13
Domestic Abuse	154	10	42	4	380	10	576	9
Disruption of Family Structure	106	7	83	8	257	7	446	7
Birth Out of Wedlock	109	7	75	7	255	7	439	7
Other Family Violence	110	7	22	2	208	6	350	6
New Baby/Pregnancy	80	5	54	5	176	5	310	5
Custody concerns	49	3	77	8	190	5	316	5
Military Deployment of Caregiver	8	0	6	0	14	0	28	0
Total Family Interaction Problems	1552	100	1029	100	3668	100	6249	100
OTHER								
Other Risk Factors	205	99	186	45	574	94	965	78
No Risk Factors	3	1	227	55	38	6	268	22
Total Other	208	100	413	100	612	100	1233	100
Total Stress Factors	3409	---	2258	---	7356	---	13023	---

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (FFY 2007).

Services Provided or Arranged Post-Assessment

Table 5 lists the types of services that may have been made available to children and families who have experienced child abuse and neglect. In cases where no services are required, "assessment only" (35%) was the most frequent service provided. Available services for children and families who have experienced child abuse and neglect vary by county.

Table 5. Services by Assessment Type

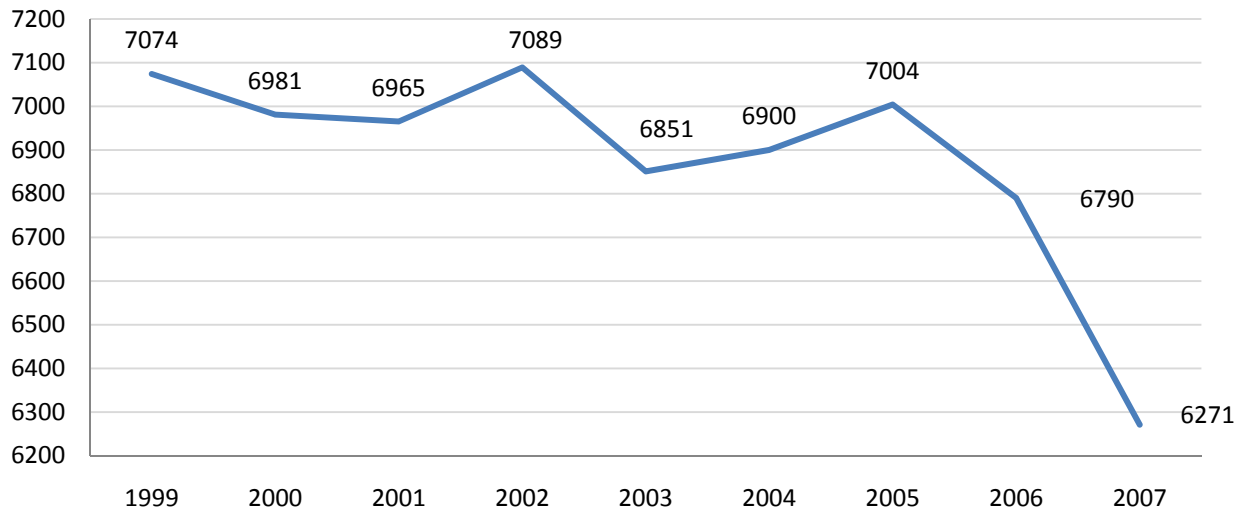
	Services Required		No Services Required		Services Recommended		Full Assessments	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Addiction Services	261	7	22	2	376	7	659	6
Assessment Only	28	1	538	35	271	5	837	7
Budgeting/Home Management Services	12	0	1	0	10	0	23	0
Case Management	501	13	15	1	148	3	664	6
Child Care	10	0	1	0	14	0	25	0
Child Protection Team Staffing	556	15	446	29	1281	24	2283	21
Church/Neighborhood Assistance	3	0	2	0	7	0	12	0
Criminal Charges Recommended	106	3	1	0	16	0	123	1
Domestic Violence Services	69	2	9	1	199	4	277	2
Emergency Shelter Care	129	4	4	0	28	0	161	1
Employment Services	10	0	0	0	10	0	20	0
Financial/Public Assistance	24	0	6	0	53	1	83	0
Foster Care or Out-of-Home Placement	196	5	6	0	40	7	242	2
Health Services	45	1	10	1	58	1	113	0
Homemaker Services/HHA	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	0
Housing Assistance	16	0	2	0	10	0	28	0
Immediate Medical Services	19	0	2	0	15	0	36	0
Intensive In-Home	34	1	5	0	86	1	125	1
Joint Investigation with Law Enforcement	171	5	43	3	126	2	340	3
Juvenile Court Referral	428	12	6	0	45	1	479	4
Legal Services	7	0	3	0	16	0	26	0
Mental Health Services/Counseling	340	9	83	6	712	13	1135	10
Other Services	249	7	109	7	886	16	1244	11
Parent Aide	41	1	10	1	70	1	121	1
Parenting Education	162	5	49	3	361	7	1816	17
Parents Anonymous/Self-Help Groups	7	0	6	0	48	1	61	0
Prime Time Child Care	5	0	0	0	7	0	12	0
Protection and Advocacy Referral	2	0	2	0	6	0	10	0
Receiving Services at Time of Assessment	102	3	166	11	315	6	583	5
Respite Care	1	0	1	0	17	0	19	0
Safety Permanency Services	12	0	3	0	25	0	40	0
State's Attorney Referral	209	6	3	0	30	0	242	2
Victim Witness Advocacy	3	0	1	0	0	0	4	0
Total	3760	100	1555	100	5287	100	10602	100

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (FFY 2007). The percent is based on column percent (or total of each service type).

Reported Child Victim Population in North Dakota

Information received by CPS concerning the suspected maltreatment of a child is summarized in a “960” report. In 2002, this population of reported children peaked at 7,089 and then dropped to 6,851 the following year (Figure 6). After a steady incline to 7,004 children in FFY 2005, the number decreased by 10% to 6,271 children in FFY 2007.

Figure 6. Number of Reported Victims

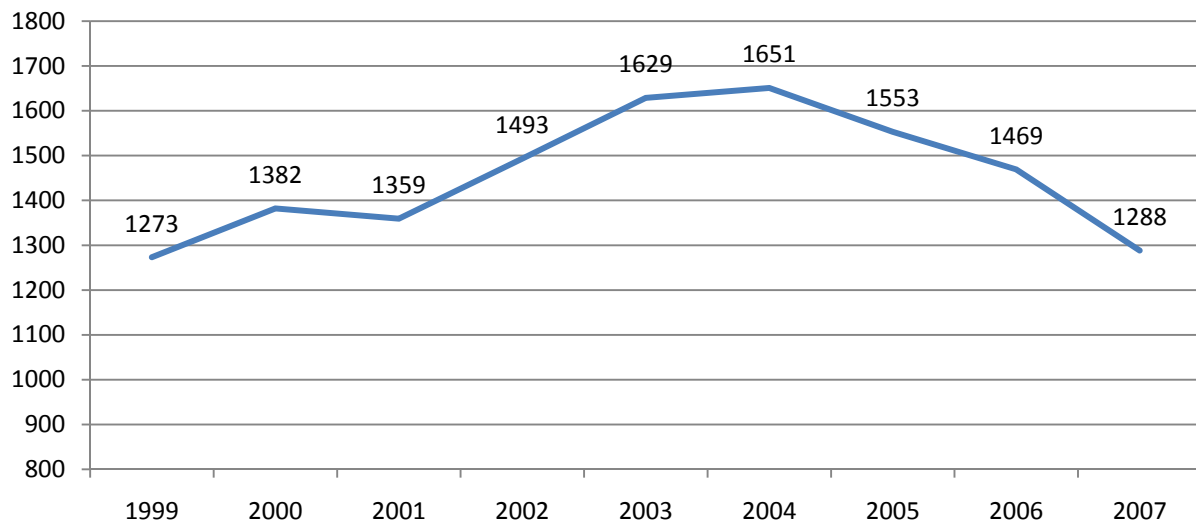


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (CY 1999-2003; FFY 2004-2007).

Confirmed (Services Required) Child Victim Population in North Dakota

The confirmed child victim population is composed of children for whom CPS determined services were required. Figure 7 distinguishes the number of confirmed child abuse and neglect victims (based on a determination from CPS) from the number of reported victims (Figure 6). In FFY 2007, of the 6,271 reported victims 1,288 (21%) resulted in a services required decision.

Figure 7. Number of Victims Identified in Services Required Cases

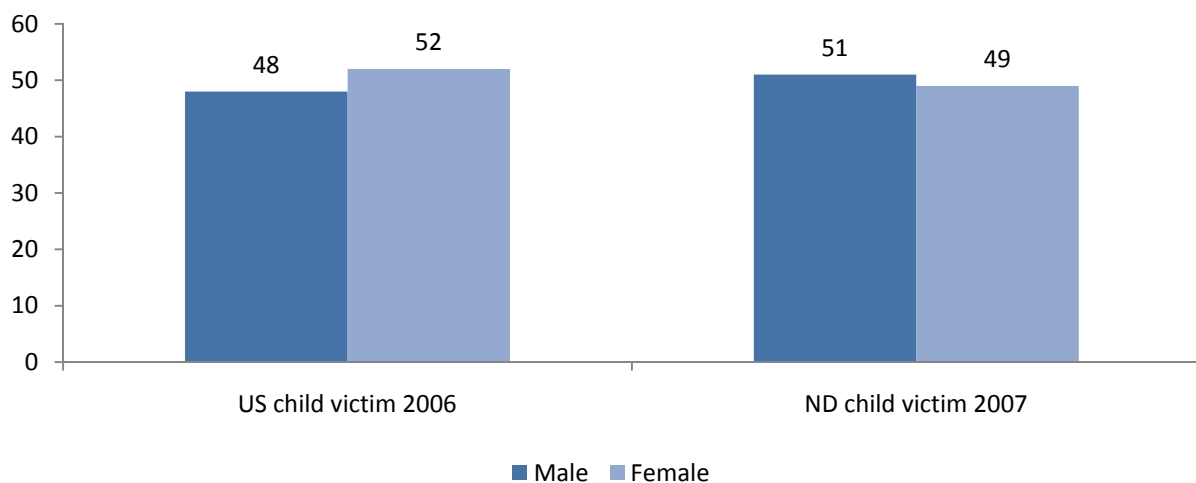


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect (CY 1999-2003; FFY 2004-2007).

Child Abuse and Neglect: Victim Gender

Although there is a comparable balance between male and female child victims in North Dakota, the national data on victims indicate a slight increase in the likelihood of female victimization.

Figure 8. Percent of Reported Victims by Gender

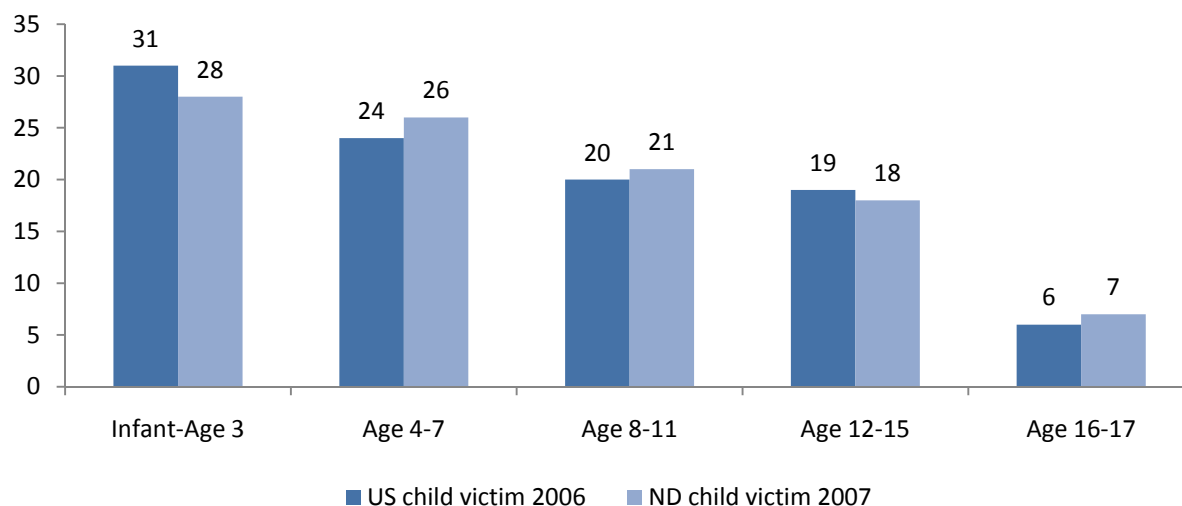


Administration of Children & Families, Children's Bureau, 2006. AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=6,253).

Child Abuse and Neglect: Victim Age

The percent of North Dakota child abuse and neglect victims, by age, has remained relatively close to the national trends. As children progress in age, the incidence of victimization decreases.

Figure 9. Percent of Reported Victims by Age



Administration of Children & Families, Children's Bureau, 2006. AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=6,258).

Table 6. Number and Percent of Reported ND Child Abuse & Neglect Victims by Age

Two-year-old children (508; 8.1%) were most frequently reported as victims of child abuse and neglect in the State of North Dakota. Three-year-olds, the second most prevalent age, followed with 423 reports (6.8%). Rates of reported older adolescent child abuse were the lowest of all age groups (3.3% among seventeen-year-olds and 3.8% among sixteen-year-olds).

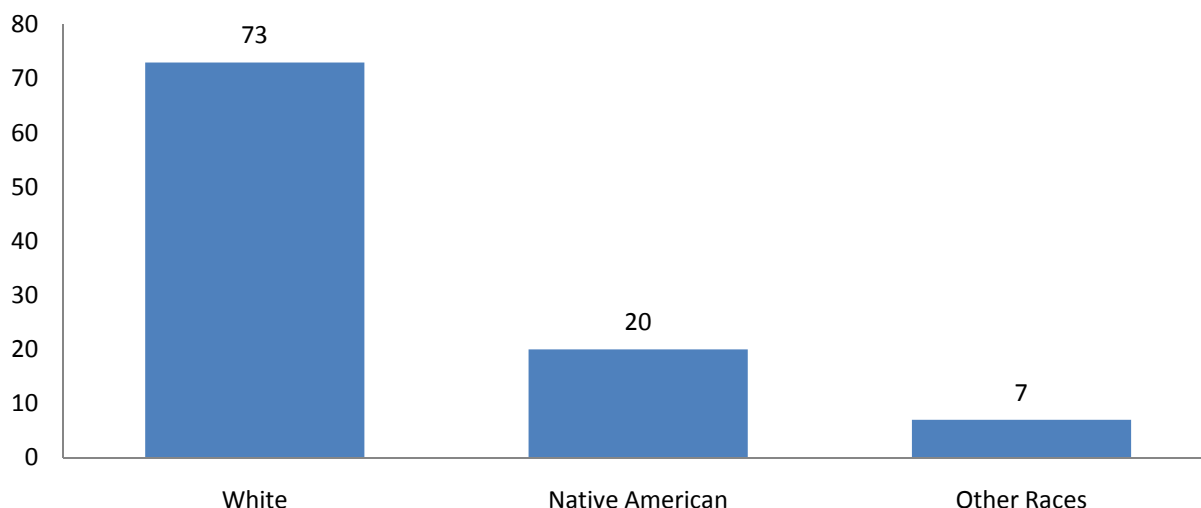
Age	2007	
	#	%
Infant	387	6.2
1	416	6.7
2	508	8.1
3	423	6.8
4	412	6.6
5	381	6.1
6	410	6.5
7	401	6.4
8	373	6.0
9	319	5.1
10	311	4.9
11	310	4.9
12	299	4.8
13	272	4.3
14	301	4.8
15	293	4.7
16	236	3.8
17	206	3.3
Total	6,258	100

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=6,258).

Child Abuse and Neglect: Victim Race

White children make up the majority of the general child population in North Dakota (86%) and reported victims of child abuse and neglect (73%). Native American children constitute 7% of the state general child population and 20% of the reported child abuse and neglect child population in North Dakota. Native American children are disproportionately represented as reported child abuse and neglect victims in North Dakota.

Figure 10. Percent of Reported Victims by Race



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=6,226).

Numbers of Reported and Confirmed Victims by County and Region

Table 7 divides full assessments into the numbers of reported and confirmed victims. Each full assessment may include more than one child victim, which explains why the number of full assessments does not equal the number of reported child victims. Table 8 is a calculation of the total number of full assessments and reported and confirmed victims by region. The row percent is the percent of confirmed victims out of the total number of reported victims. Twenty-one percent of reported victims in North Dakota are confirmed victims based on a “services required” decision.

Table 7. Number of Full Assessments with Reported and Confirmed Victims by County

Region/County		Full Assessments	Reported Victims	Confirmed Victims
I:	Divide	11	18	0
	McKenzie	10	19	0
	Williams	109	194	79
II:	Bottineau	26	47	6
	Burke	10	17	0
	McHenry	23	41	0
	Mountrail	25	48	7
	Pierce	15	21	0
	Renville	17	33	6
	Ward	488	820	143
III:	Benson	9	16	8
	Cavalier	7	12	5
	Ramsey	87	158	45
	Rollette	42	67	8
	Towner	3	5	0
IV:	Grand Forks	421	757	171
	Nelson	10	15	1
	Pembina	30	62	12
	Walsh	74	159	52
V:	Cass	927	1491	247
	Ransom	8	20	0
	Richland	96	163	21
	Sargent	7	8	2
	Steele	4	7	0
	Traill	13	20	6
VI:	Barnes	45	86	21
	Dickey	18	44	6
	Eddy	7	19	3
	Foster	7	11	1
	Griggs	3	10	4
	LaMoure	7	17	1
	Logan	1	3	0
	Stutsman	102	163	29
	Wells	16	35	9
VII:	Burleigh	407	792	183
	Emmons	11	12	3
	Grant	4	14	9
	Kidder	5	24	5
	McLean	35	13	0
	Mercer	25	42	1
	Morton	134	293	76
	Oliver	7	4	2
	Sheridan	4	10	0
	Sioux	0	2	0
VIII:	Adams	4	7	4
	Billings	1	2	0
	Bowman	9	19	7
	Dunn	9	17	5
	Golden Valley	11	34	12
	Hettinger	7	8	3
	McIntosh	13	28	9
	Slope	2	3	2
	Stark	172	341	74

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 .

Table 8. Aggregate Number of Full Assessments and Reported Victims by Region

Region	Full Assessments	Reported Victims	Confirmed Victims	Row %
I	130	231	79	34
II	604	1027	162	16
III	148	258	66	26
IV	535	993	236	24
V	1055	1709	276	16
VI	206	388	74	19
VII	677	1206	279	23
VIII	228	459	116	25
TOTAL	3,583	6,271	1,288	21

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007.

Types of Child Maltreatment

Victims may experience more than one type of maltreatment. Therefore, this is an unduplicated count with each maltreatment incident included in the data. In 2007, there were 2,075 maltreatment victimizations experienced by 1,288 victims (Table 9).

Psychological maltreatment is most common of all typologies. Psychological maltreatment is without a subset of descriptive categories. Of the remaining maltreatment types, inadequate supervision, a subset of the neglect category, is the most frequently reported victimization whereas “other neglect” is the most common among confirmed victims.

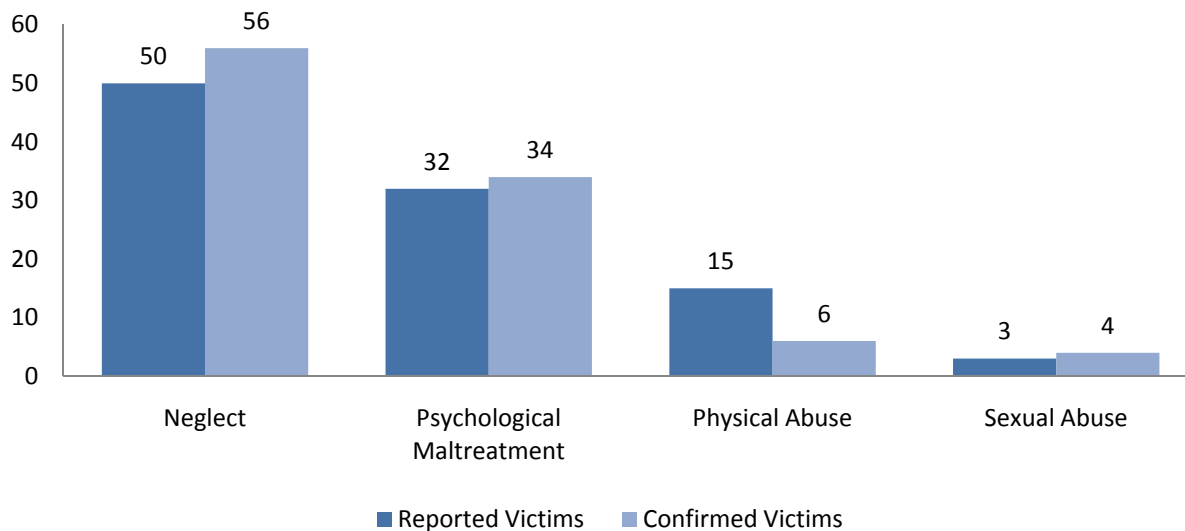
Table 9. Number of Specific Types of Reported and Confirmed Maltreatment

	Reported	Confirmed
Physical Abuse:		
Excessive Corporal Punishment	596	36
Other Minor Injury	346	21
Minor Cuts/Bruises/Welts	344	32
Severe Cuts/Lacerations/Bruises	23	13
Twisting/Shaking	21	4
Tying, Close Confinement	19	2
Bone Fracture	18	4
Other Major Physical Injury	12	1
Burns/Scalds	11	1
Minor Fracture/Sprains	5	0
Subdural Hemorrhage of Hematoma	5	4
Brain Damage/Skull Fracture	5	3
Fatal	5	1
Internal Injuries	3	1
Dislocation/Sprains	2	0
Gunshot Wounds	2	0
Intentional Poisoning	2	0
Stabbing	1	0
Total (Physical Abuse)	1,420	123
Neglect:		
Inadequate Supervision	1,893	341
Other Neglect	1,564	425
Inadequate Shelter	446	187
Educational Neglect	385	104
Inadequate Nourishment	152	18
Inadequate Health Care	125	38
Inadequate Clothing	77	10
Abandonment	38	24
Drugs Present at Birth	24	10
Alcohol Present at Birth	10	0
Meth Present at Birth	7	2
Failure to Thrive	6	3
Total (Neglect)	4,727	1,162
Psychological:		
Psychological	3,040	704
Total (Psychological)	3,040	704
Sexual Abuse:		
Sexual Fondling	140	51
Other Form of Sexual Exploitation	101	27
Intercourse	32	8
Total (Sexual Abuse)	273	86
Total Number of Child Maltreatments	9,460	2,075
Total Number of Reported Victims	6,271	--
Total Number of Confirmed Victims	--	1,288

AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007.

Of confirmed victims, or those determined to be victims by a decision of “services required” after a full assessment, 56% of victims were maltreated by neglect (Figure 11). This is close to the percent of reported neglect victims (50%). While 15% of maltreatments reported are for physical abuse, 6% are confirmed as child victims. In 2007, sexual abuse maltreatment reports accounted for 3% of all reports while 4% were confirmed victims.

Figure 11. Percent of Reported and Confirmed Child Maltreatment by Type

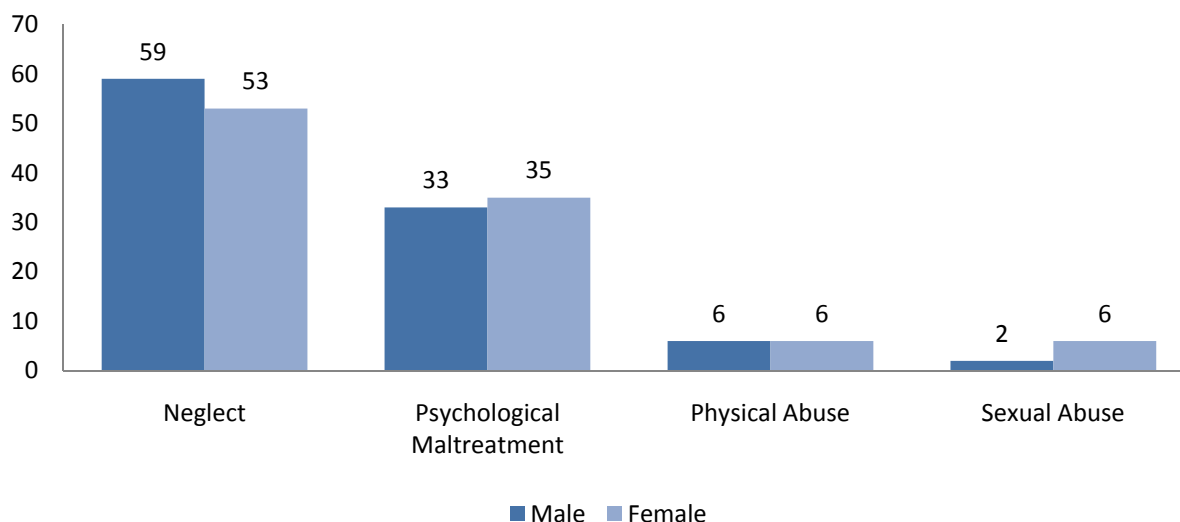


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007.

Maltreatment and Gender

Do certain types of maltreatment vary by gender? Male children (59%) were slightly more likely than their female counterparts (53%) to be victimized by neglect (Figure 12). Female children experienced psychological abuse (35%) at a slightly higher percent than male children (33%). Physical abuse was experienced equally (6%) by male and female children. In 2007, females were disproportionately victimized by sexual abuse (6%), compared to males (2%).

Figure 12. Gender of Confirmed Victims by Maltreatment Type (Percent)

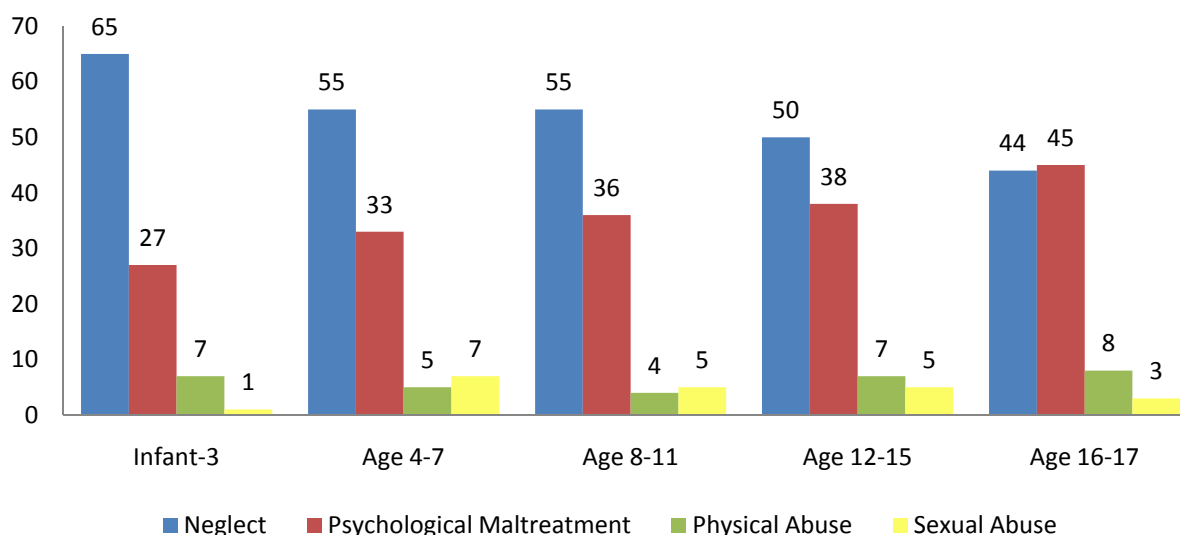


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=2,075).

Maltreatment and Age

Figure 13 illustrates neglect, psychological maltreatment, physical, and sexual abuse by age. As a child's age increases, there is a steady decrease in the percent of children who are confirmed victims of neglect. The opposite trend occurred with psychological maltreatment; the rate of psychological maltreatment increases slightly with age. The 8-11 age category represents the lowest percent of physical abuse victims (4%) whereas the 16-17 age group is the most likely to experience physical abuse (8%). Sexual abuse victimizations involving children age 4-7 occurred more often than any other age group.

Figure 13. Percent of Confirmed Victims by Maltreatment Type by Age Range

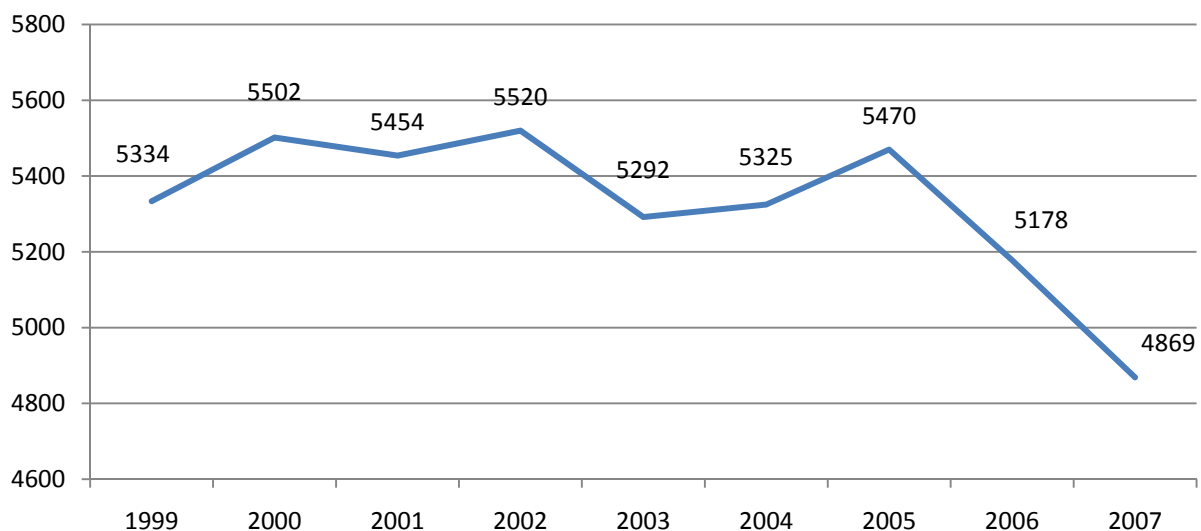


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (N=2,074).

Reported Adult Subject Population in North Dakota

A subject is a person who is suspected of abusing or neglecting a child or a person who has abused or neglected a child. The United States Department of Health and Human Services-Administration for Children and Families Children's Bureau refers to a subject as a perpetrator. These terms will be used synonymously throughout this section in the comparison of state and national data. A subject may be counted multiple times if he or she is listed as the subject for child maltreatment for more than one child. This occurs for either the same or different reports. In 2007, there were 6,271 victims and 4,869 subjects reported to Child Protective Services (Figure 14). From 2005 to 2007, there was a 10% decrease in victims (6,790) and an 11% decrease in the number of subjects (4,869) listed in "960" reports.

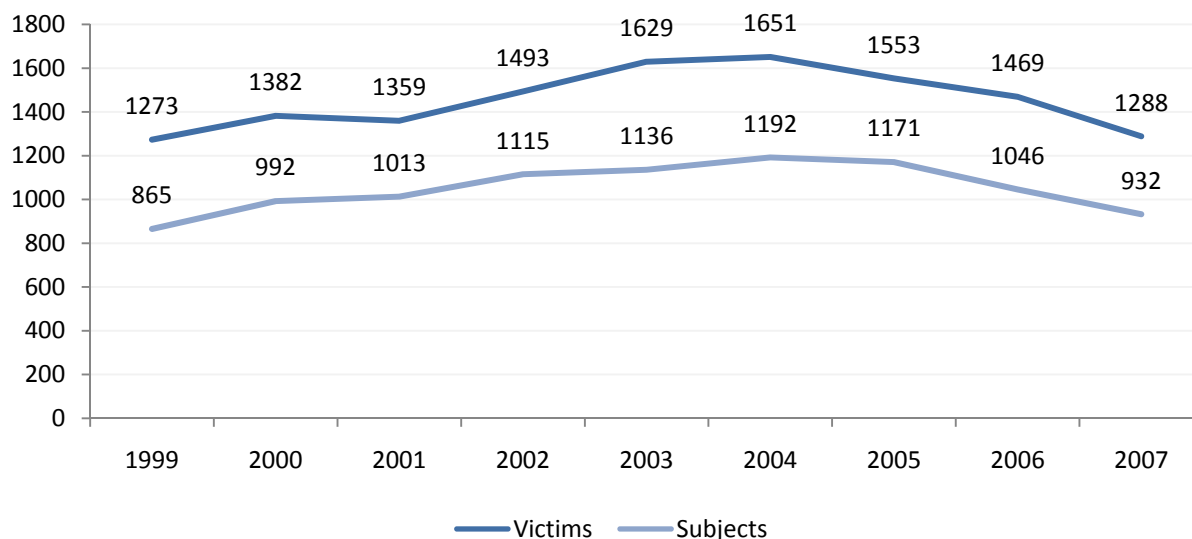
Figure 14. Number of Reported Subjects



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007.

Figure 15 further differentiates between "services required" assessment decisions for subjects and "services required" assessment decisions for victims. Of the total number of subjects reported in all cases (4,869), 19% (932) were involved in "services required" assessment decisions. In reference to victims, 21% of all reported cases of child abuse and neglect (6,271) were confirmed with an actual victim (1,288).

Figure 15. Number of Victims and Subjects Involved in Services Required Assessments

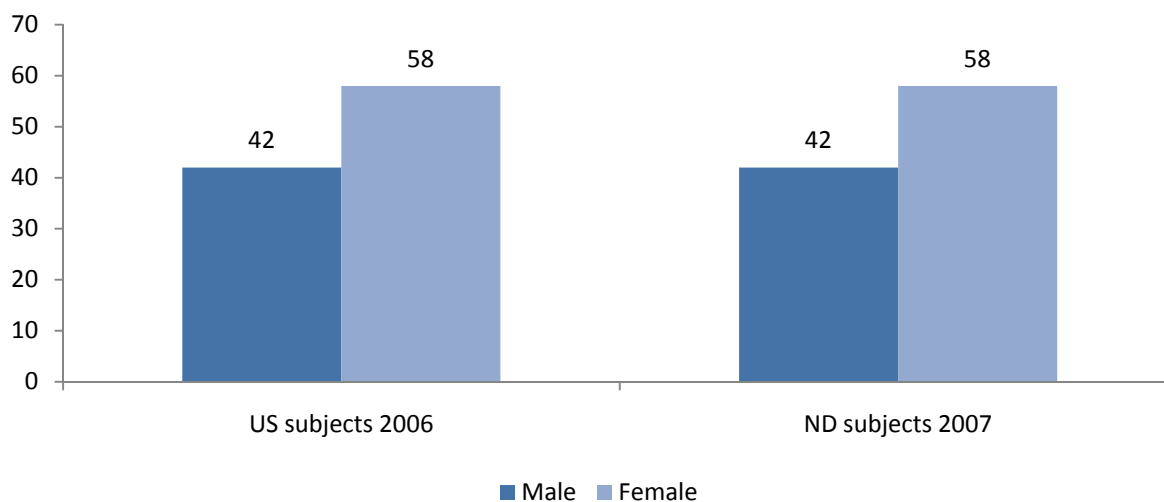


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007.

Subject Gender

Are females or males more likely to engage in child maltreatment? Females are disproportionately represented as subjects as reported to CPS in North Dakota (Figure 16). This gender disparity resembles the national data on reported subjects.

Figure 16. Percent of US and ND Subjects by Gender



Administration of Children and Families: Children's Bureau, Child Maltreatment 2006. AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (n=4,869).

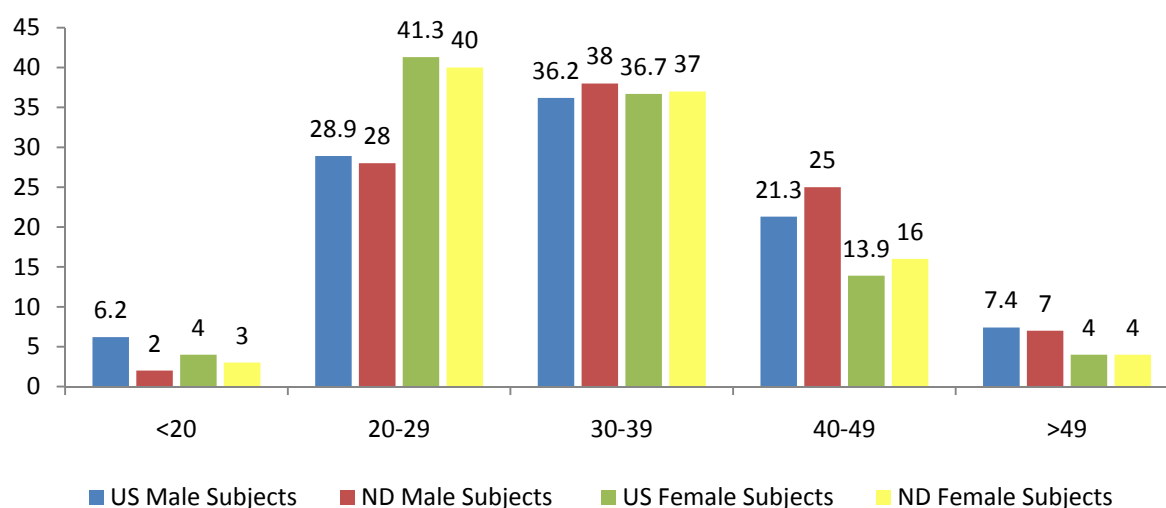
Subject Age

Are subjects overrepresented in a particular age group? Figures 17 depicts the percent of male and female subjects by age range. Figure 18 provides the age demographics of the North Dakota general adult male and female population. Fifteen

percent of the general adult male population in North Dakota fell into the age range of 30 to 39, yet this age range accounted for 38% of male subjects. In contrast, the males older than age 49 were the largest segment (40%) of the general population in North Dakota and the second smallest among male subjects (7%). The age trends for male subjects in North Dakota and the United States were similar with the exception of the under 20 age group (2% of subjects in North Dakota; 6.2% of subjects nationally).

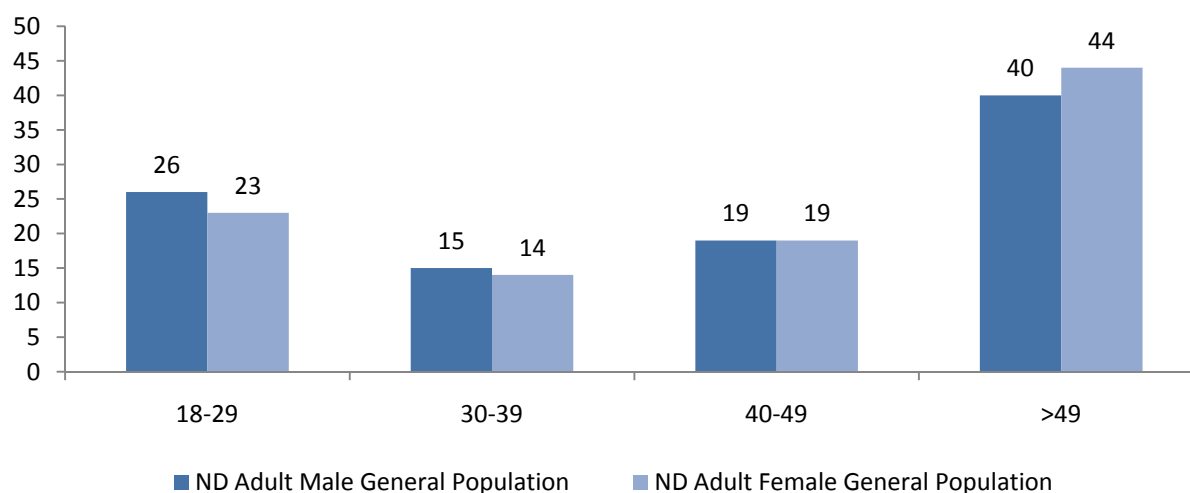
CPS reports indicate females were more often reported as subjects than males. Like their male counterparts, the population of subjects over the age of 49 is relatively small (4%); however, in the general population, females represent the largest age group (44%). Over three-quarters of female subjects of child maltreatment fall into the age ranges of 20-29 (40%) and 30-39 (37%).

Figure 17. Percent of US and ND Perpetrators by Age



Administration of Children and Families: Children's Bureau, Child Maltreatment 2006. AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (n=4,438).

Figure 18. Percent of ND Adults in the General Population (2006)

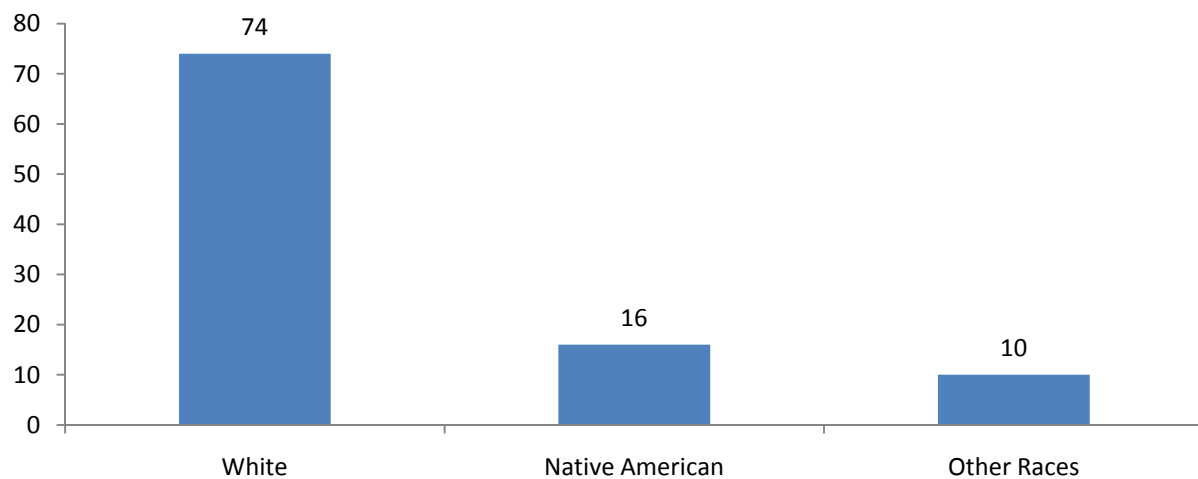


U.S. Census Bureau, Population by Single Year of Age: North Dakota, July 1, 2006 Estimate.

Subject Race

White adults constitute the majority (74%) of child abuse and neglect subjects (Figure 19), and white children are most often (73%) the victim (Figure 10). Native American subjects represent 16% of the subject population. Native American child victims account for 20% of all child abuse and neglect victims (Figure 10).

Figure 19. Subject Race by Percent

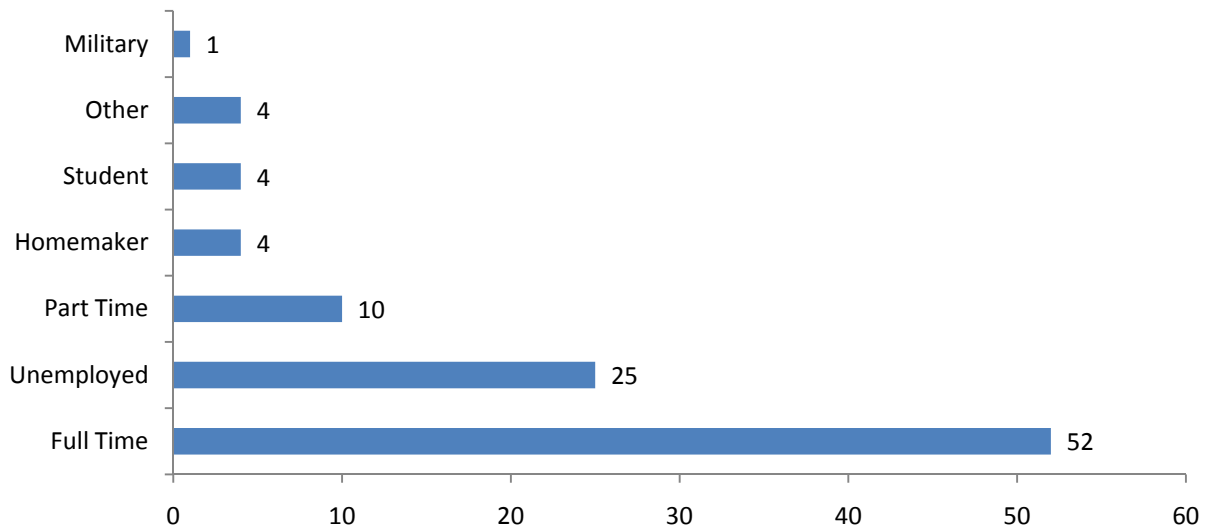


AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (n=4,807).

Subject Employment and Public Assistance Status

About half the reported subjects (52%) are employed full-time (Figure 20). In contrast, 25% of subjects were reported as unemployed. Public assistance status is relatively equally distributed between those that receive (48%) and do not receive (52%) public assistance services (Figure 21).

Figure 20. Percent of Subjects by Employment Status



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (n=4,878).

Figure 21. Percent of Subjects by Public Assistance Status



AAR Data Reporting System Child Abuse & Neglect, 2007 (n=4,418).

Safety Permanency Funds

This flexible funding can be accessed through county social service agencies on behalf of families where children are at risk of out-of-home placement, are being reunited safely with their families, or assist with other permanency plans for children. All other avenues of payment must be exhausted prior to using these funds due to limited available funds. Other avenues may include county funds, churches, fraternal organizations, etc. Safety permanency funds were provided to approximately 520 families during fiscal year 2007.

Services provided with Safety Permanency Funds

- ☐ Food: groceries, food vouchers, and meal vouchers;
- ☐ Clothing: vouchers for clothing, baby diapers, and vouchers for thrift stores;
- ☐ Transportation: bus tickets, gas vouchers, mileage reimbursement, vehicle repairs, purchase of a vehicle, new tires, etc.;
- ☐ Housing: rent, deposits, home repairs (roof, shingles, wiring, plumbing, heating, floors, windows), and motel or hotel vouchers;
- ☐ Household Items: appliances, cleaning supplies, bedding, towels, toiletries, furniture, and carpet;
- ☐ Utilities: electricity bills, heating bills, telephone bills, and deposits for utilities;
- ☐ Medical Care: medication, eye glasses, dental care, co-pays;
- ☐ Evaluations: psychological, drug and alcohol, parental capacity, psychiatric, and drug testing;
- ☐ Therapy Services: counseling, individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, interpreter services;
- ☐ Educational/Recreational Needs: summer camps, educational supplies, YMCA passes, swimming passes, and tutoring;
- ☐ Child Care Expenses: relative care givers and child care providers;
- ☐ Parent Classes: love and logic, nurturing network, and parent resource center classes;
- ☐ Legal Expenses: legal guardianship fees and legal aid; and
- ☐ Visits between Child in Out of Home Care and Parents: hotel/motel expenses, gas, airfare, and food.

Child Fatality

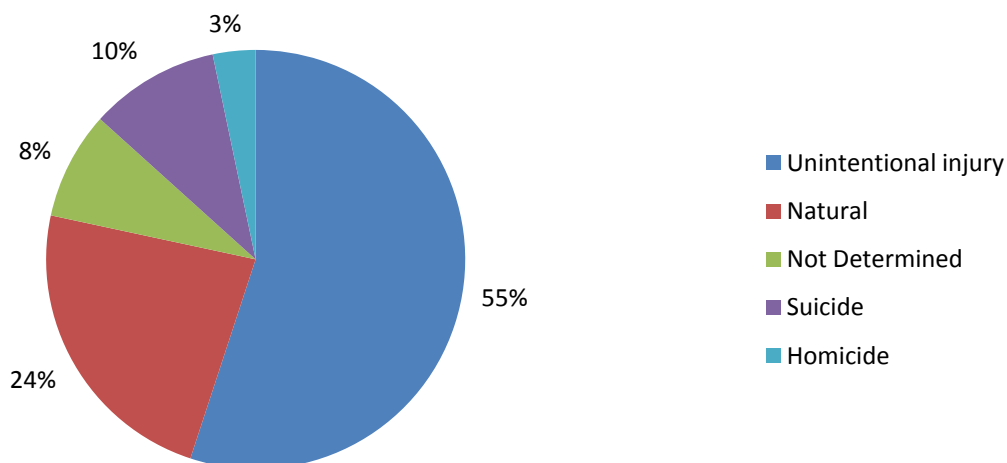
The North Dakota Child Fatality Review Panel (NDCFRP) fulfilled the duties mandated by the North Dakota Century Code during 2006. By statute (50-25.1-01), the Panel is charged with responsibility for “the identifying of the cause of children's deaths, where possible; the identifying of those circumstances that contribute to children's deaths; and the recommending of changes in policy, practices, and law to prevent children's deaths”. Additionally, the Panel is to “meet at least semiannually to review the deaths of all minors which occurred in the state during the preceding six months and to identify trends or patterns in the deaths of minors. (NDCC50-25.1-04.3)”

Table 10. North Dakota Child Fatality Review Panel Number of Reviews

Calendar Year 2006	
Total Child Deaths (From all causes)	113
Status B Deaths Status B cases are deaths that are not unexpected (i.e. long term illness) and/or deaths that are due to natural causes. (Review of Death Certificate only)	50
Status A Deaths Status A cases consist of all cases of children whose death is sudden, unexpected, and/or unexplained.	63
Out-of-State Child Deaths The “death-causing” event/injury is identified as occurring outside of North Dakota. (Not reviewed in depth by the NDCFRP.)	3
In-State Child Deaths All other child deaths with North Dakota death certificates. (Reviewed in depth by the NDCFRP.)	60

After an in-depth review, the Child Fatality Review Panel either agrees or disagrees with the manner of death indicated on each death certificate. When the Panel, after an in depth review, does not agree with the manner of death indicated on each death certificate, the Panel reclassifies the manner of death for its own purposes. The Panel's classifications serve as the basis of this report. The Panel reclassified one death in 2006 from “accident” to “not determined”, due to the lack of an autopsy.

Figure 22. North Dakota Child Fatality Review Panel's Classifications of the Manner of Death for 2006



Child Fatality Review Panel, 2006 (N=60).

2006 Trends

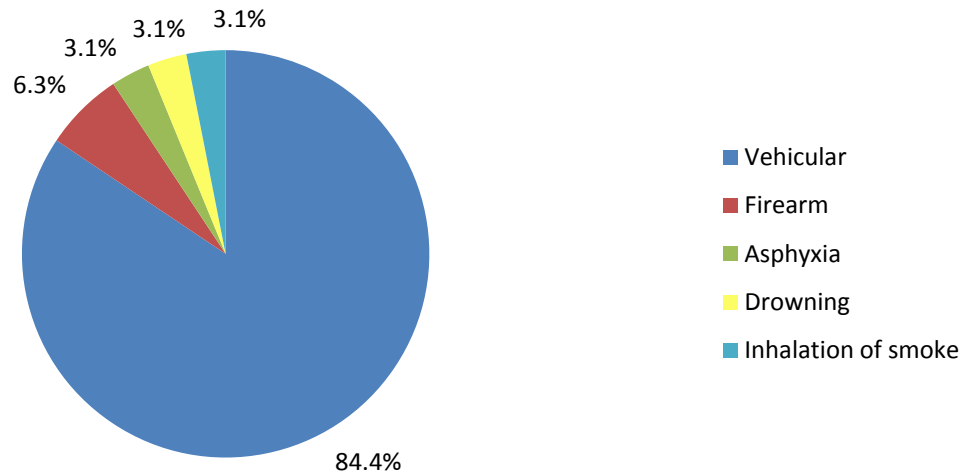
The Panel identified that Native American children are over represented in the Child Fatality numbers. According to North Dakota Kids Count for 2005, North Dakota's child population is 85% Caucasian, and 9% Native American. However, 21 of the 63 (33.3%) deaths reviewed by the North Dakota CFRP during 2006 were Native American children.

Of the 63 deaths reviewed in-depth, 28.5% (18) were ages 0-2 years; 8% (5) were ages 3-5 years; 1.6% (1) was age 6-8 years; 6.3% (4) were ages 9-11 years; 12.7% (8) were ages 12-14, and 42.9% (27) were ages 15-17. These numbers indicate children at greatest risk of death are the very young and our teenagers.

Unintentional Injury Deaths

Unintentional injury is the largest category of child deaths for 2006. Unintentional Injury Deaths are commonly referred to as accidents, both by the public and by the manner of death as recorded on death certificates. However, the term "accident" implies that the fatal injury/event could not have been prevented. Therefore, the Child Fatality Review Panel prefers the terms Unintentional Injury as opposed to the term accident because the child deaths in this category are predictable, understandable, and preventable. In fact, the Child Fatality Review Panel classified all 32 unintentional injury deaths as preventable. The largest sub-category of unintentional injury death is vehicular, accounting for 27 of the 32 child deaths from all unintentional injuries in 2006. There were five deaths from other unintentional injuries; two firearm deaths, one drowning death, one asphyxia death, and one death from inhalation of smoke.

Figure 23. Unintentional Injury Deaths



Child Fatality Review Panel, 2006 (N=32).

Natural Deaths

The manner of death was classified as natural for fourteen (24%) of the 60 child deaths reviewed in 2006. One of the deaths in this category was determined by the Panel to have been preventable due to medical misadventures/foreseeable complications. Eight babies died from SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome). Six natural deaths did not fall into one of the other identified types of fatal injury/event data categories. All children in the category of natural deaths received an autopsy.

Suicide Deaths

There were six suicide deaths in children during 2006.

Homicide Deaths

In 2006, two children died as the result of homicide.

Deaths Where the Manner Could Not Be Determined

The Panel could not determine the manner of death for six deaths in 2006. In two cases, risk factors for SIDS could not be ruled out. One was reclassified from an accident to undeterminable because an autopsy had not been performed. One case involved cerebral edema with herniation and was not adequately investigated. Of the remaining two undeterminable deaths, one was a ligature hanging and one a gunshot wound.

Long Term Trends

Table 11. Child Deaths by Year

Year	Total child deaths	Number reviewed in depth
1996	103	55
1997	109	51
1998	123	59
1999	116	54
2000	109	38
2001	98	43
2002	93	35
2003	107	38
2004	87	39
2005	94	40
2006	113	63

Child Fatality Review Panel, 1996-2006.

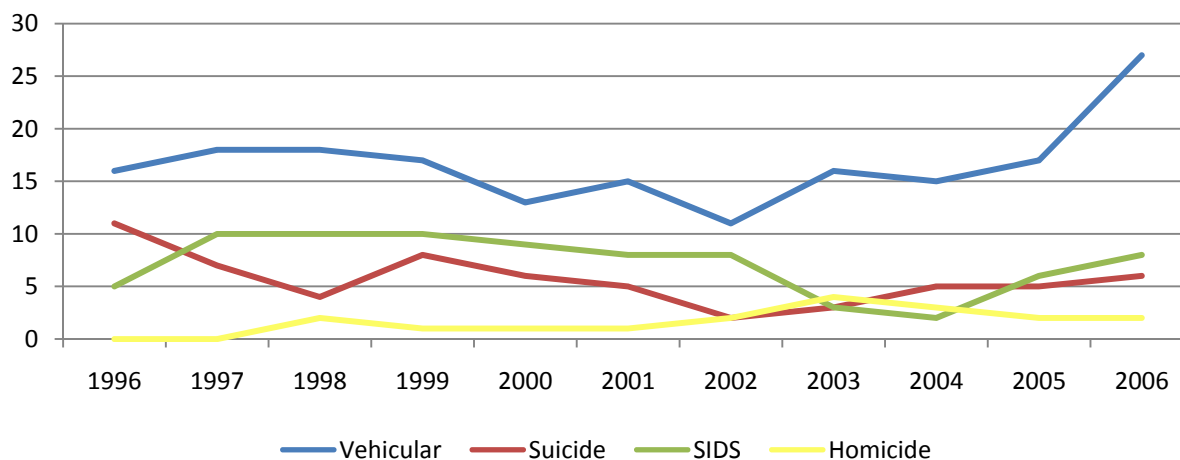
The numbers of vehicular crash deaths increased from a low of 11 in 2002 to a high of 27 in 2006. Even though the numbers of crash deaths may not seem large when compared with deaths in more populated states, vehicular deaths have remained the primary cause of child fatalities North Dakota for the last ten years.

There is also concern about the numbers of SIDS deaths. SIDS deaths have averaged seven deaths per year over the past eleven years (8 in 2006). Numerous risk factors for SIDS are identified in too many of these cases. Research over this same period of time indicates a reduction in the identified risk factors is associated in a corresponding reduction in the number of SIDS deaths.

The Panel finds the number of youth succumbing to suicides very troubling. Child deaths from suicide have averaged five per year over the past 11 years (6 in 2006). Although research reports a reduction in North Dakota's suicide rate in the 10-24 year-old age group, this does not appear to be true for the 0-18 year-old population.

Although the number of North Dakota children who die as the result of homicide may not seem large (2 in 2006) and an increase in the number of these deaths does not yet appear to be a trend; nonetheless, the Panel finds these child homicides disturbing.

Figure 24. Number of Child Deaths by Manner of Death



Child Fatality Review Panel, 1996-2006.

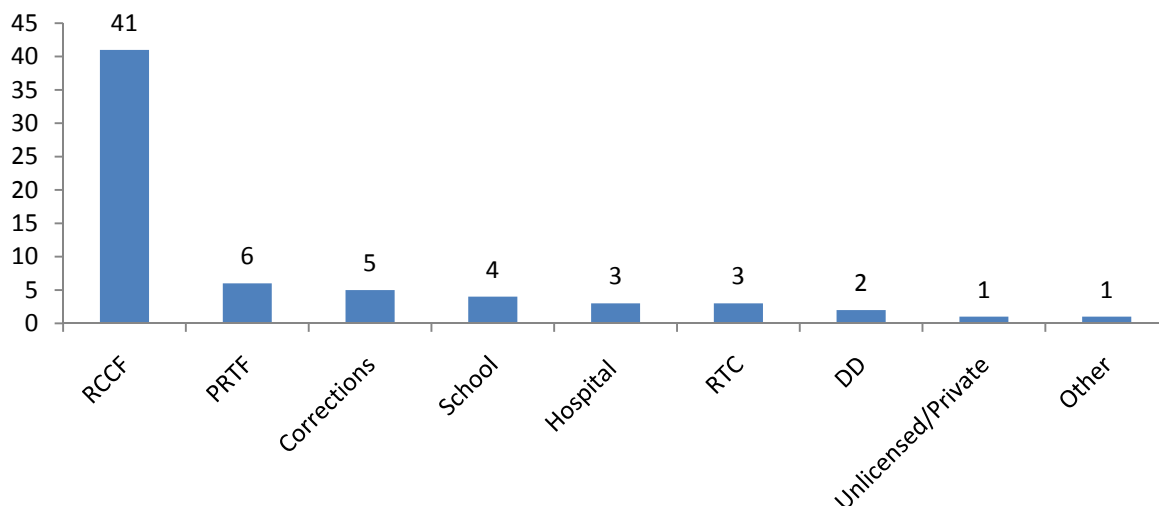
Institutional Child Abuse and Neglect

Institutional child abuse and neglect means situations of known or suspected child abuse or neglect where the institution responsible for the child's welfare is a residential child care facility, a treatment or care center for mentally retarded, a public or private residential educational facility, a maternity home, or any residential facility owned or managed by the state or a political subdivision of the state (North Dakota Century Code chapter 50-25.1). The subject of each report is the facility itself not the individuals working within or residing in the facility.

Reports of suspected institutional child abuse and neglect differ from reports of suspected child abuse or neglect by other caregivers. Reports of suspected institutional abuse and neglect are received and assessed by child protection staff of Regional Human Service Centers in conjunction with the Children and Family Services Central Office. These assessments are then staffed for a decision with the State Child Protection Team, a multidisciplinary team with decision-making authority (NDCC 50-25.1).

Reports of institutional child abuse and neglect are relatively uncommon in North Dakota. In FFY 2007 there were a total of 66 reports of institutional child abuse and neglect (Figure 25). Forty-one (62%) reports occurred in residential child care facilities (RCCF) and six (9%) occurred in psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTF).

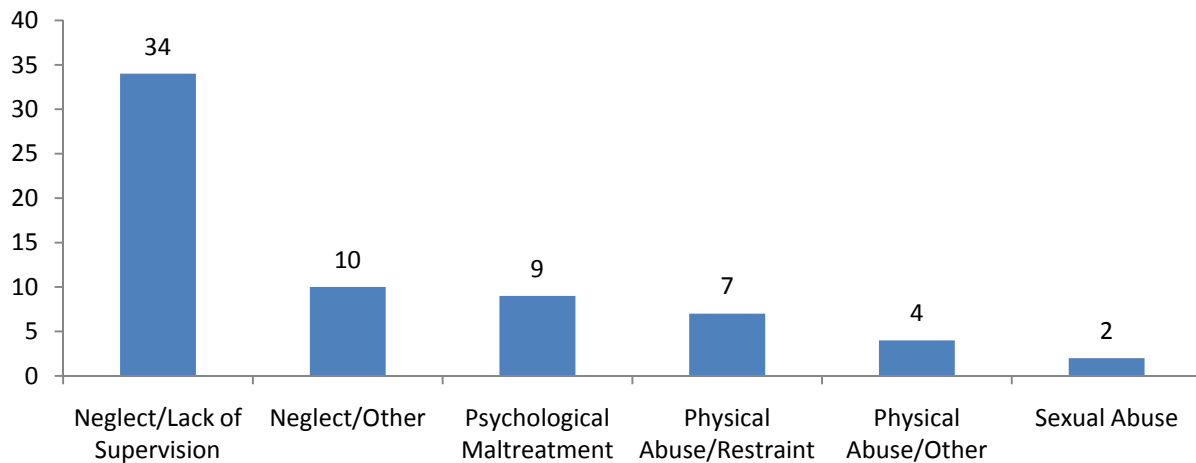
Figure 25. Number of Institutional Child Abuse & Neglect Reports by Facility



Institutional Child Abuse & Neglect reports 2007, (N=66).

Over half (55%) of all institutional child abuse and neglect reports received were the result of neglect/lack of supervision (Figure 26). Fifteen percent of cases were reported due to neglect/other.

Figure 26. Suspected Maltreatment Type by Total Reports

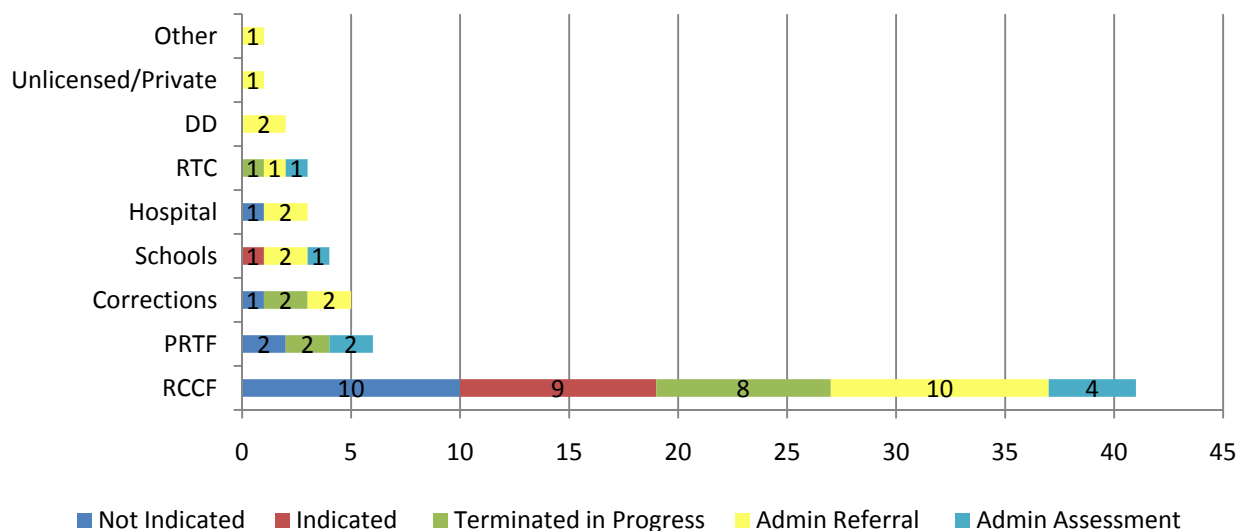


Institutional Child Abuse & Neglect reports 2007, (N=66).

A decision is made based on each reported suspected maltreatment case. Figure 27 illustrates the number of reports for each facility type by decision. The following is terminology for each decision type:

- ☐ **Administrative Assessment:** When the concerns in the report of suspected institutional child abuse or neglect:
 - clearly fall outside of the child protection law (NDCC 50-25.1);
 - there is insufficient information to identify or locate the child;
 - the reporter can give no credible reason to suspect a child has been abused or neglected; and/or
 - there is reason to believe the reporter is making a false report.
- ☐ **Administrative Referral:** When the concerns expressed in a report of suspected institutional child abuse or neglect do not fall within the law or policies of institutional child protection services and the report is referred to the appropriate entity for follow-up.
- ☐ **Terminated in Progress:** This is a situation where an administrative assessment is terminated in progress. A full assessment is begun, but information is received indicating that the concern falls outside the law (NDCC 50-25.1).
- ☐ **“Indicated”:** A child has been abused or neglected.
- ☐ **“Not Indicated”:** A child has not been abused or neglected.

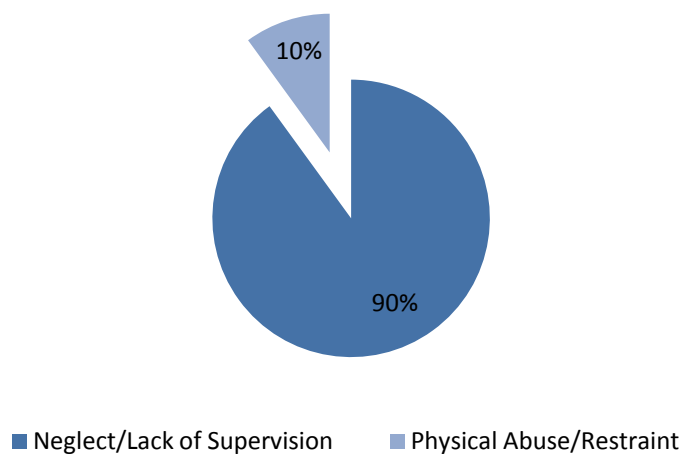
Figure 27. Facility Type by Number of Reports by Determination



Institutional Child Abuse & Neglect reports, 2007 (N=66)

In FFY 2007 there were ten assessments where the decision of the State Child Protection Team found that institutional child abuse or neglect was indicated, nine occurring in residential child care facilities and one in a school. Figure 28 further distinguishes the maltreatment type on the indicated cases.

Figure 28. Maltreatment Type by Indicated Determination



Institutional Child Abuse & Neglect reports, 2007 (n=10)

Children & Family Services: Permanency

- ☐ Foster Care
- ☐ Subsidized Guardianship Program
- ☐ Independent Living
- ☐ Refugee
- ☐ Adoption

Foster Care

Introduction

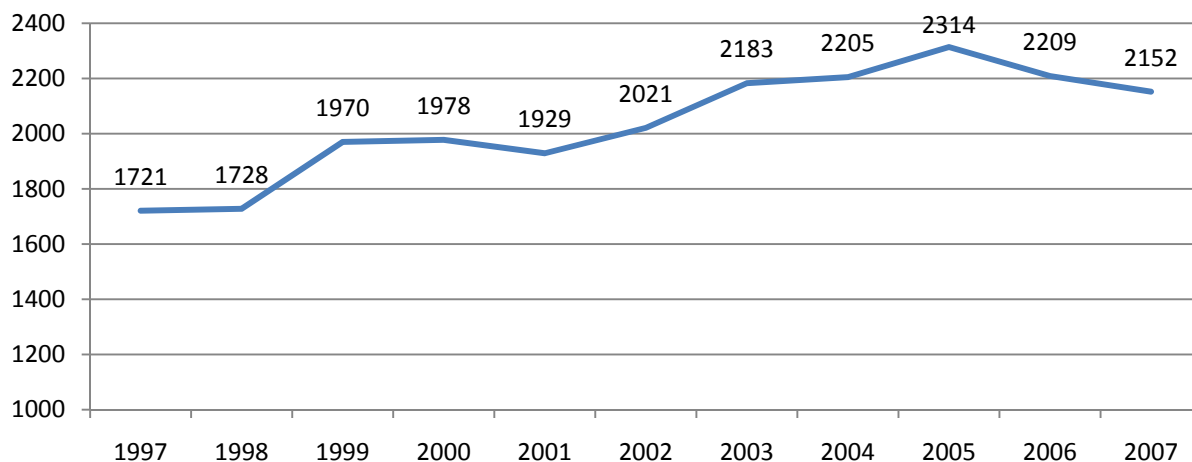
Foster care is 24 hour out-of-home care for children whose parents are unable or fail to provide for their children's needs. Out-of-home placement provides shelter, security, safety, guidance and comfort. In nearly all cases, the child in care has been removed from home by a court order, with custody given to a public agency, such as the Division of Juvenile Services, County Social Services or Tribal Social Services. Foster care may be provided in a:

- ☐ Family foster home;
- ☐ Relative care;
- ☐ Group home; or
- ☐ Residential child care facility.

North Dakota Foster Care Children

The number of children receiving foster care services annually has decreased by 7%, from 2,314 to 2,152, since the population peaked in 2005 (Figure 29). The figures and tables depict the foster care child population either during the entire fiscal year or the first or last day of the fiscal year 2007. Figure 29 indicates trends in the number of unduplicated children. Foster care children were not double counted if they were in and out of foster care more than once during the FFY. The data compiled for FFY 2007 (October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007) is based on the automated system, Comprehensive Child Welfare Information and Payment System (CCWIPS). CCWIPS is the computer program utilized by workers in the field offices. A series of queries and reports are generated from CCWIPS for the federal government through Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

Figure 29. Unduplicated Number of ND Children in Foster Care

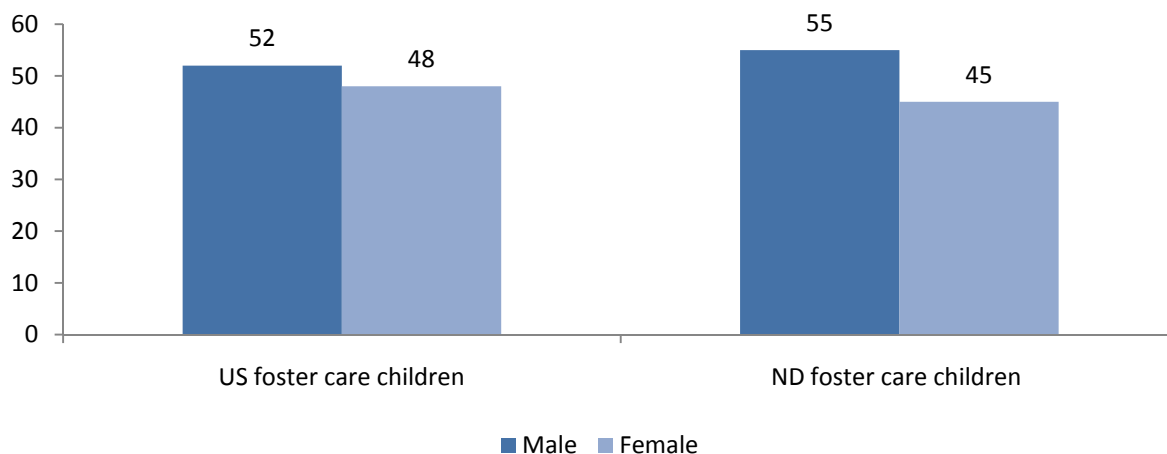


AFCARS 2007 (N=2,152).

Gender and Foster Care

Is a particular gender disproportionately represented in the foster care population? While there is a sizable gap between genders in the North Dakota foster care population this is not the case for the United States foster care population (Figure 30).

Figure 30. Percent of Children by Gender in US & ND Foster Care Population



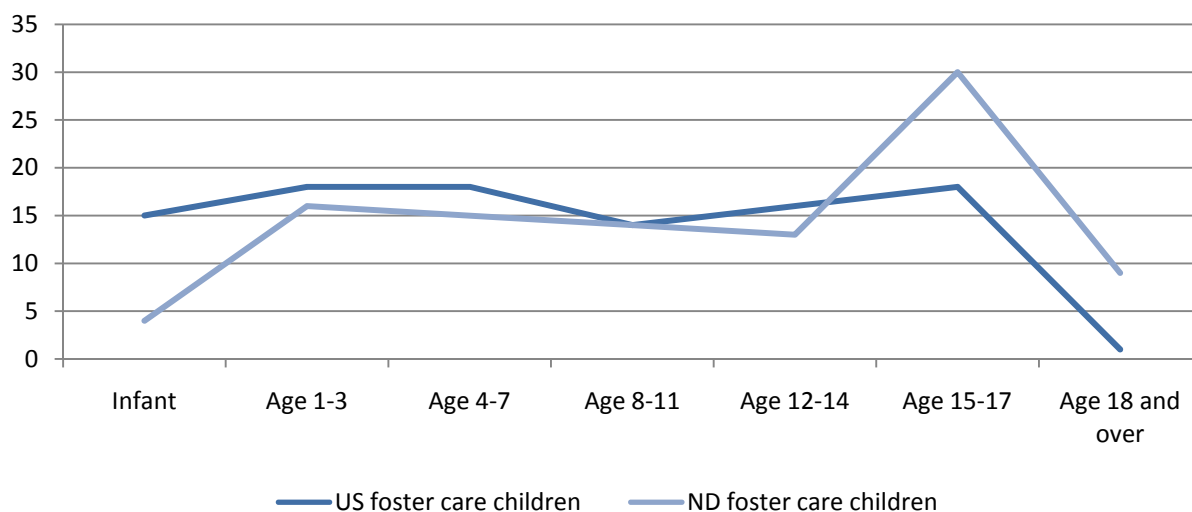
Administration of Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau (FY 2005). AFCARS 2007 (N=2,152).

Age and Foster Care

Figure 31 portrays the percent of children by age range in the North Dakota foster care population. Youth ages 15 to 17 represent the largest percent (30%; 635) of children in foster care. Young children, infants through age 3, account for 20% (428) of the foster care population. Nationally, 18% of foster care children are in each of the following age ranges; 1 to 3, 4 to 7, and 15 to 17.

Nine percent of the foster care population was over the age of 18 in 2007. If children are over the age of 18, they can elect to remain in the family foster care system as long as they are a full-time student. An eighteen-year-old foster care child is required to have lived with the family, prior to turning eighteen, for six months or longer. These youth are counted as children in the state foster care system and data.

Figure 31. Percent of Children by Age Range in US & ND Foster Care Population



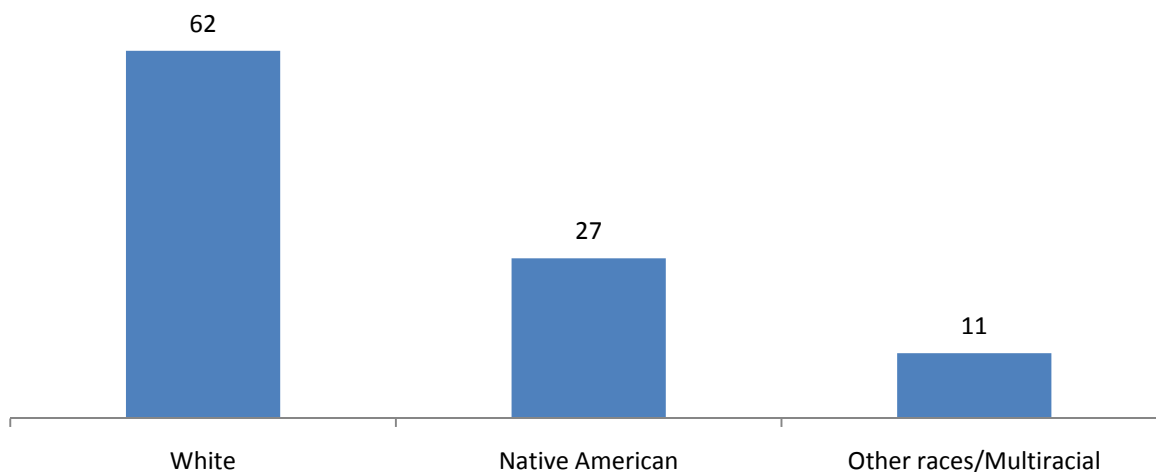
Administration of Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau (FY 2005). AFCARS 2007 (N=2,152).

Foster Care Disparities by Race

Figure 32 depicts the racial designations for foster care children in North Dakota. Native American children made up a disproportionate number of children in foster care placements. Over half of the children (62%, 1,343) in the North Dakota foster care population are white. Native American children accounted for 27% (581) of the foster care population in 2007 yet only 7% of the state general child population.

The category of 'other' races includes Asian, Black, and Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian children. Children were only counted in one racial category. If a child was identified as bi-racial (Native American and Black), he was counted once in the 'other races/multiracial' category but not in the two individual race categories.

Figure 32. Percent of Children by Race in the ND Foster Care Population

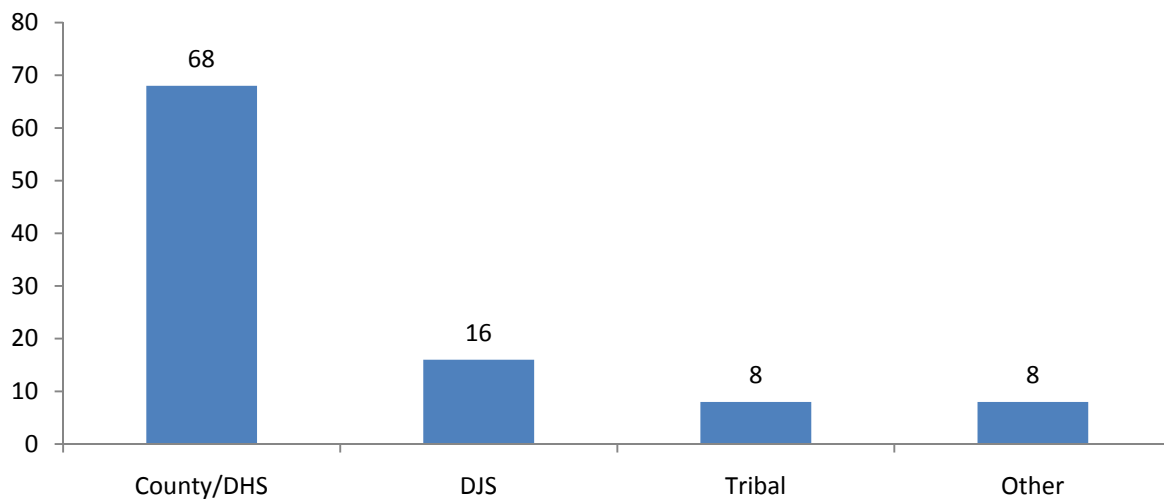


AFCARS 2007 (N=2,152).

Custody and Placement Types

Who has custody of foster care children once the court orders a child be removed from the custody of the parents or primary caregivers? The court grants custody to the agencies listed in Figure 33. For example, 68 percent, or close to seven out of ten children, were in the custody of a county or the North Dakota Department of Human Services in FFY 2007. The Division of Juvenile Services (DJS) is responsible for the custody of delinquent and unruly children placed in its care by the courts. A variety of resources and placement options are available for troubled adolescents in the care of the Division of Juvenile Services. Caution must be used when viewing the numbers of children under tribal custody. The numbers were understated due to unavailable data on the population of children under tribal custody. This report only includes data on tribal children benefitting from IV-E monies.

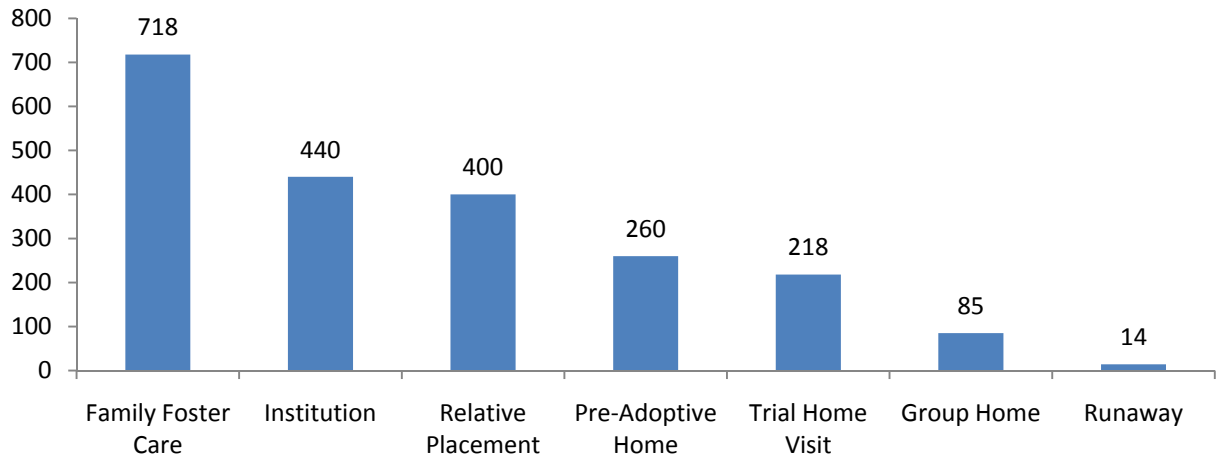
Figure 33. Percent of ND Foster Care Children by Custodian



AFCARS 2007 (N=2,152).

Figure 34 further details the number of North Dakota foster care children in the custody of a county or Department of Human Services by placement type. A third (33%) of all children were placed in family foster care.

Figure 34. Number of Children in the Custody of County/DHS by Foster Care Placement Type in FFY 2007

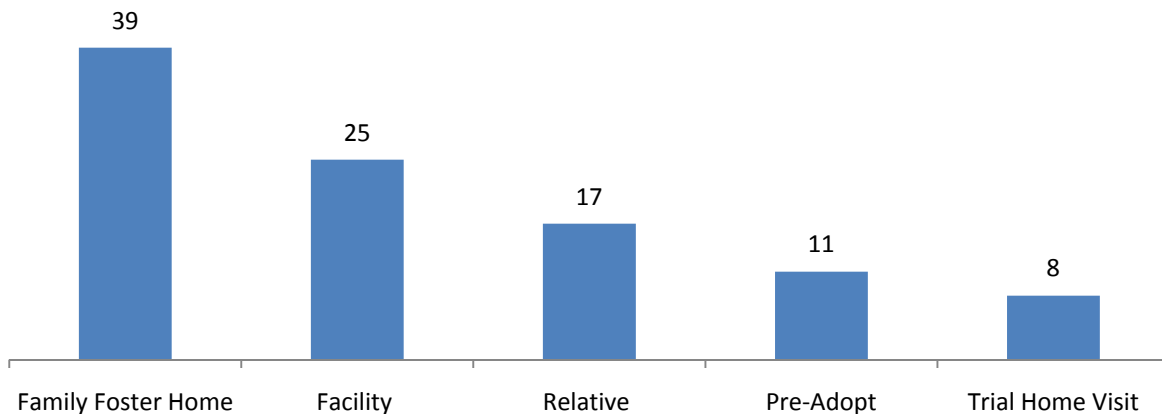


AFCARS 2007 (N=2,135). There were 17 cases in which the placement type was not recorded.

There were 1,820 admissions and 840 discharges during FFY 2007. There were 1,312 children in care on the September 30, 2007. Figure 35 is a snapshot of the percent of North Dakota foster care children by placement type on the last day of FFY 2007.

Of the placement types, relative placements were the most inexpensive and least restrictive option whereas facilities were the most expensive and restrictive for foster care children. Children and Family Services strives to place children in the least restrictive environment. This goal equates to maximizing relative placements while minimizing facility (institution and group home) placements.

Figure 35. Percent of North Dakota Foster Care Children by Placement Type on Last Day of FFY

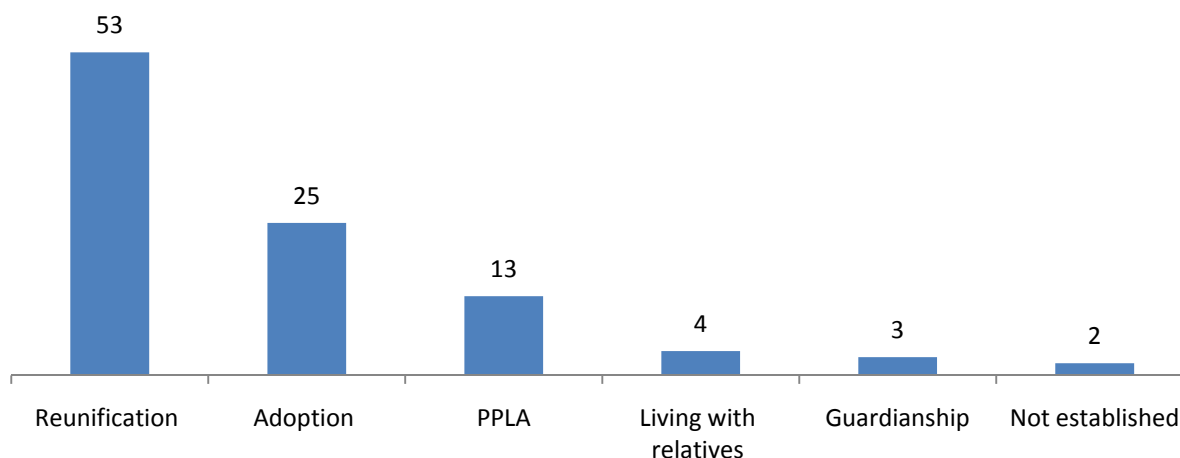


AFCARS 2007 (N=1,312). The percentages exclude records without a coded discharge reason, 2007 (N=12) and runaways (N=4).

Permanency Goals and Discharge Reason

What were the permanency goals for the children who were in foster care at the end of each fiscal year? The overriding permanency goal is reunification with the parents and/or primary caregivers (53%). Adoption, the second most prevalent permanency goal (25%), includes both relative and non-relative adoptions. Planned permanent living arrangements, PPLA, (12%) is a permanency goal which generally involves planning for an alternative living arrangement for foster care children over the age of 16.

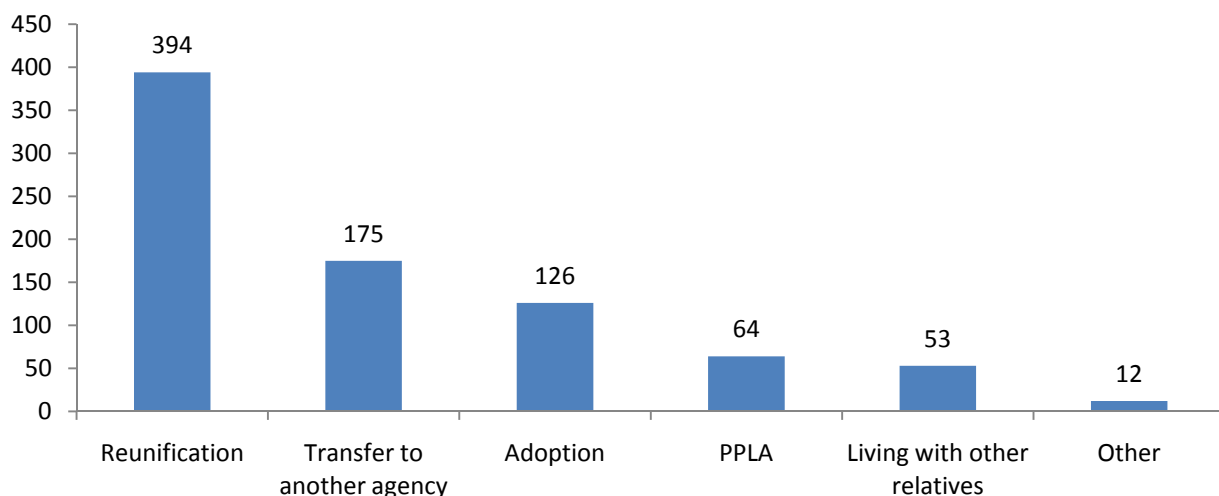
Figure 36. Percent of North Dakota Foster Care Children by Permanency Goal on Last Day of FFY



AFCARS 2007 (N=1,312). The percentages exclude records without a coded permanency goal, 2007 (N=61).

For those children who were discharged during the FFY 2007, almost half (48%) reunified with their families. “Agency transfer” is a transfer to another agency such as a child transitioning from one county to another or one county to DJS. At the end the 2007 fiscal year, there were 126 cases (15%) closed by the worker due to adoption. Some children (8%) reach the age of majority and remain in the foster care system. Children living with relatives (5 percent in 2006) reside with other family members outside of their immediate family. Runaways (11) and guardianship (1) are included in the ‘other reason’ category.

Figure 37. Number of North Dakota Foster Care Children by Discharge Reason on Last Day of FFY

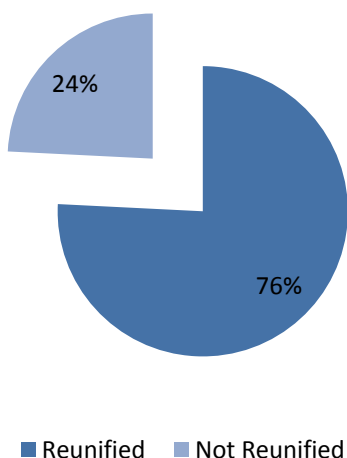


AFCARS, 2007 (N=840). The percentages exclude records without a coded discharge reason, 2007 (N=16).

Reunification

Reunification is the predominant case plan goal and discharge reason for foster care children. In 2007, 338 children (76%) returned home to their parents or primary caregiver within one year from the latest home removal. The latest home removal may be the first or one of a series of removals for a child.

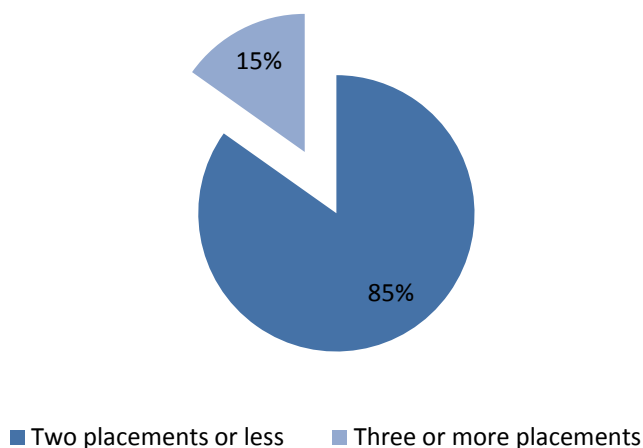
Figure 38. Percent of North Dakota Foster Care Children by Reunification Status in Less Than a Year



AFCARS, 2007 (N=446).

Figure 39 provides prior placement numbers for the children who successfully reunified with their parents within one year. The majority of this reunified population (85%) had two or fewer placements in the foster care system before reunification.

Figure 39. Number of Reunified Foster Care Children by Number of Prior Placement Settings

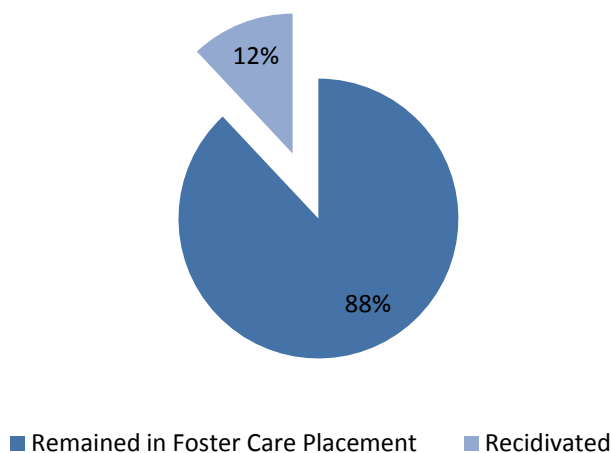


AFCARS, 2007 (N=1,133).

Recidivism

There were 1,820 children admitted to foster care in 2007. Figure 40 depicts that 88% (1,598) of those admitted, remained in their placement. Twelve percent (222) foster care children re-entered foster care. Recidivism means that the child has left foster care and then returned during the year, one or more times.

Figure 40. Twelve Month Recidivism for Foster Care Children Admitted in FFY 2007

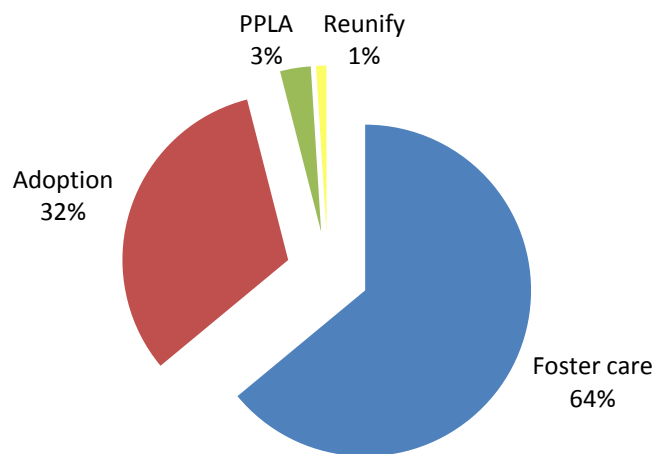


AFCARS, 2007 (N=1,820).

Waiting Children (Termination of Parental Rights but no Adoption)

Sixty-four percent (94) of children who were in foster care remained in foster care following the relinquishment of parental rights of both parents. Even though these children are no longer living with their parents, there are several options available to them (i.e. adoption, independent living, or a planned permanent living arrangement). Figure 41 represents the discharge reason for this population. The most common reason, as coded by the field worker was adoption (32%). Rare occurrences exist when the adoption process is not finalized or the process is disrupted. Generally, if the field worker enters the discharge reason as adoption then these occurrences are not reflected in the data.

Figure 41. Status of Children with Parents Who Terminated Their Parental Rights



AFCARS, 2007 (N=146).

Subsidized Guardianship Program

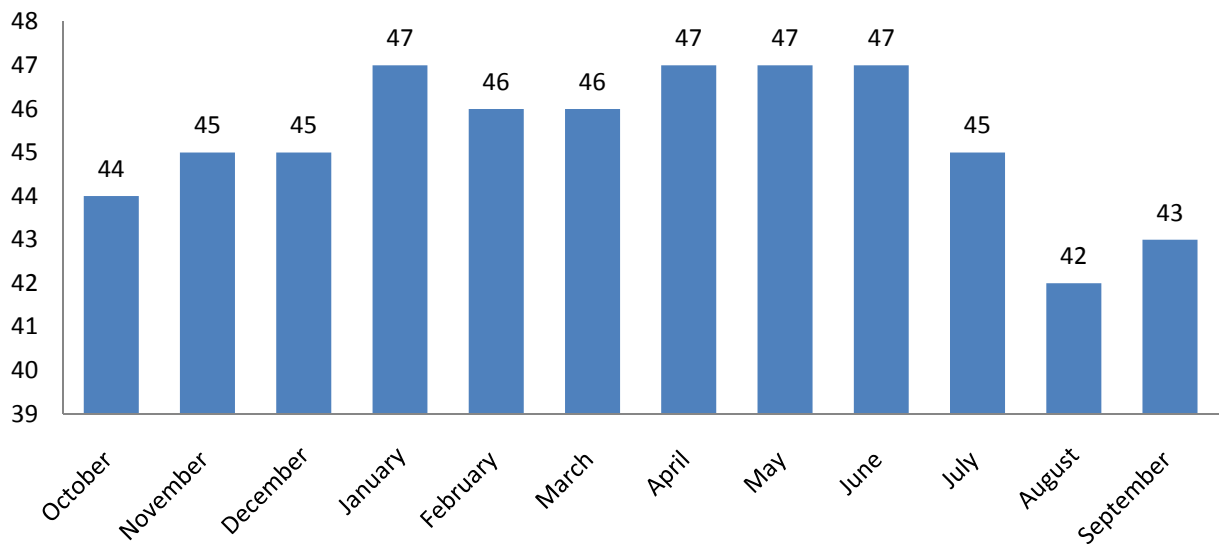
The sub-guardianship program was implemented in March 2000. As of July 1, 2008, 101 of the 141 (71.6%) applications have been approved. The remaining 40 requests were either withdrawn or denied. The budget for the 2006-2008 biennium allows for 52 participants in the sub-guardianship program.

Eligibility factors:

- ☐ Adoption and reunification must be ruled out before applying for a guardianship subsidy;
- ☐ Youth who are legally free for adoption and do not wish to or cannot be adopted;
- ☐ Youth in temporary custody whose parents are incapacitated or unwilling to have anything to do with planning for the child and whose parental rights will not be terminated;
- ☐ Eligibility is limited to children in the state foster care system for at least 6 months and for whom the state has responsibility for maintenance payments. An exception to the six month requirement can be requested and granted under certain circumstances.

During FFY 2007, there were on average 45 participants in the sub-guardianship program representing 18 counties and the Division of Juvenile Services.

Figure 42. Number of Subsidized Guardianships by Month



Data obtained from Foster Care/Interstate Compact Program Administrator, FFY 2007.

Independent Living

The Chafee Foster Care Independent Living Program is committed to ensuring that young people who spent time in foster care, in particular those who aged out of the foster care system, are given the opportunities to make the transition from foster care to living successful lives as young adults. Independent Living Programs are available in each of the eight regions of the state.

The overall goal of the Chafee Independent Living Program is that all former foster youth will reach the following outcomes by age 21:

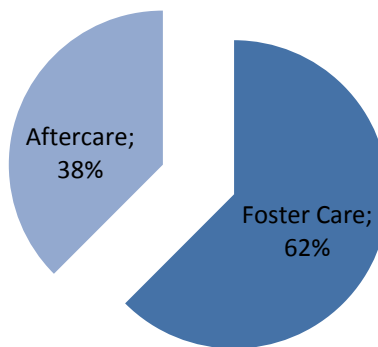
- ☐ Have sufficient economic resources to meet their daily needs
- ☐ Have a safe and stable place to live
- ☐ Attain academic or vocational/education goals that are in keeping with the youth's abilities and interests
- ☐ Have a sense of connectedness to persons and community
- ☐ Avoid illegal/high risk behaviors
- ☐ Postpone parenthood until financially established and emotionally mature
- ☐ Have access to physical and mental health services

Services and supports are available through the Chafee Program for foster youth, age 16 and older, who have been identified as “likely to age out of foster care”, and for those foster youth who have aged out of the system and have not yet reached their 21st birthday, and are current and willing participants in a Regional Independent Living Program. Current foster youth, age 16 and older, who have not been identified as likely to age out of foster care, are also required to have a plan for Independent Living. The Chafee Foster Care Independent Living Program offers:

- ☐ Strength-based, youth driven, and individualized programming and plans
- ☐ Direct financial assistance with living expenses
- ☐ Financial assistance for post-secondary education (Education and Training Voucher Program)
- ☐ Child and Family Team involvement
- ☐ Youth Stakeholder groups
- ☐ Regional and State Youth Advocacy Boards
- ☐ Annual foster youth conference
- ☐ One-on-one assistance with: Finding and maintaining employment and housing, accessing necessary resources including physical and mental health services, and pursuing academic and vocational goals.

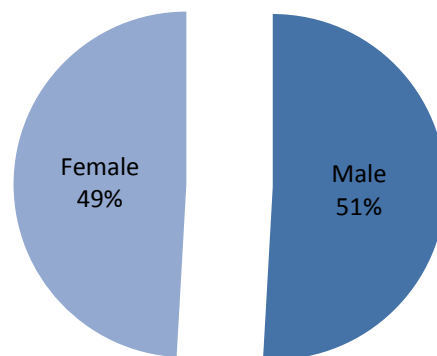
Over half (62%) of youth in independent living are in the foster care system (Figure 43). Data on these youth are included in the section on foster care. Similar to the entire foster care population, 51% of independent living youth are male (Figure 44). While 59% of the independent living population is comprised of white youth an additional 30% are Native American youth (Figure 45).

Figure 43. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Program



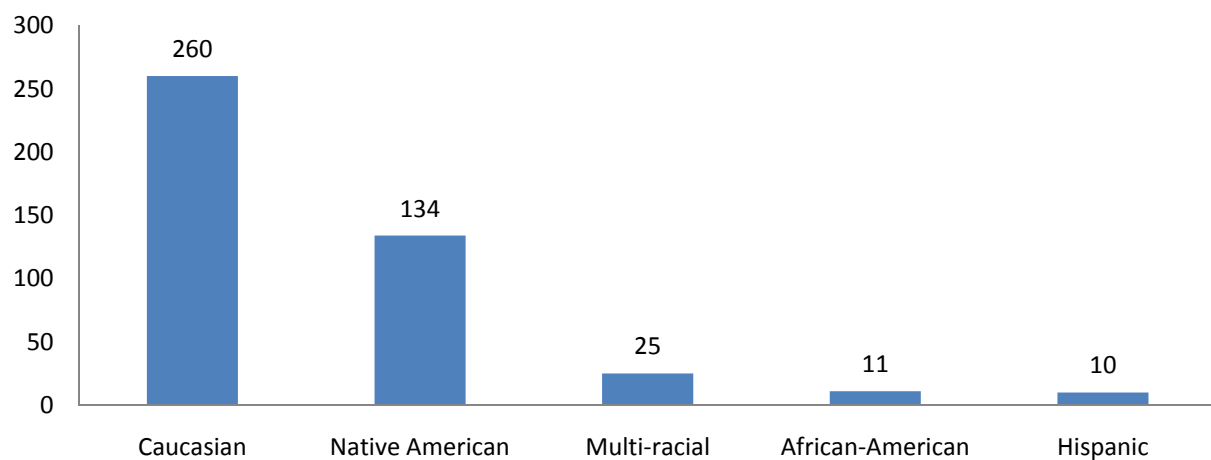
Data obtained from Independent Living Program Administrator, FFY 2007 (N=440).

Figure 44. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Gender



Data obtained from Independent Living Program Administrator, FFY 2007 (N=440).

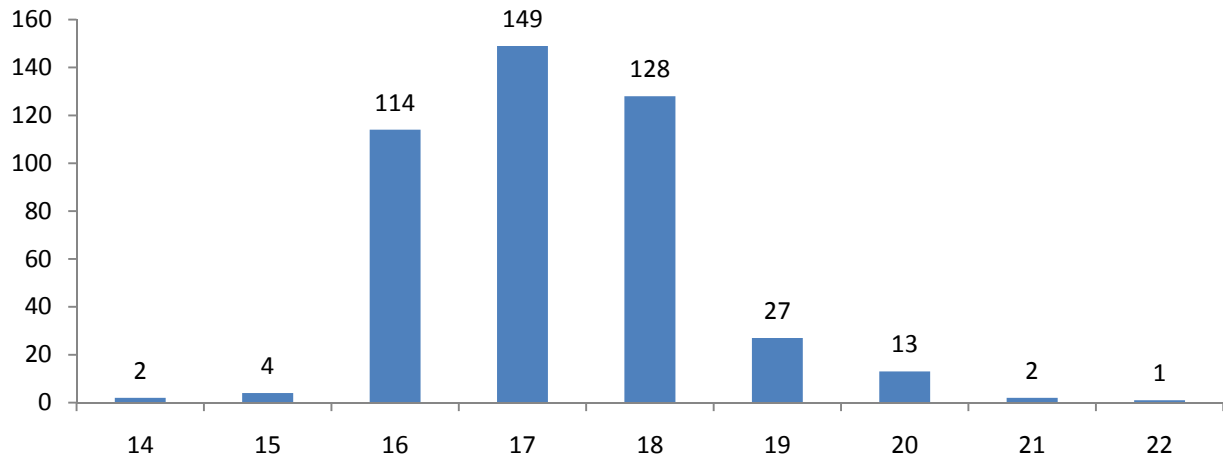
Figure 45. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Race



Data obtained from Independent Living Program Administrator, FFY 2007 (N=440).

Youth age 17 accounted for 34% (149); 18 year olds represented 29% (128); 16 year olds comprised 26% (114) of independent living youth served by foster care and aftercare programs (Figure 46).

Figure 46. ND Independent Living Youth Served by Age



Data obtained from Independent Living Program Administrator, FFY 2007 (N=440).

Education Training Voucher (E.T.V.) Program

- ☐ 55 vouchers were awarded to 37 individuals.
- ☐ 21 of the 37 individuals were first time recipients.
- ☐ 16 of the 37 individuals were repeat/continuation recipients.

Foster Teen Conference

Sixteen foster youth attended the Foster Teen Conference.

Youth Stakeholders Meetings

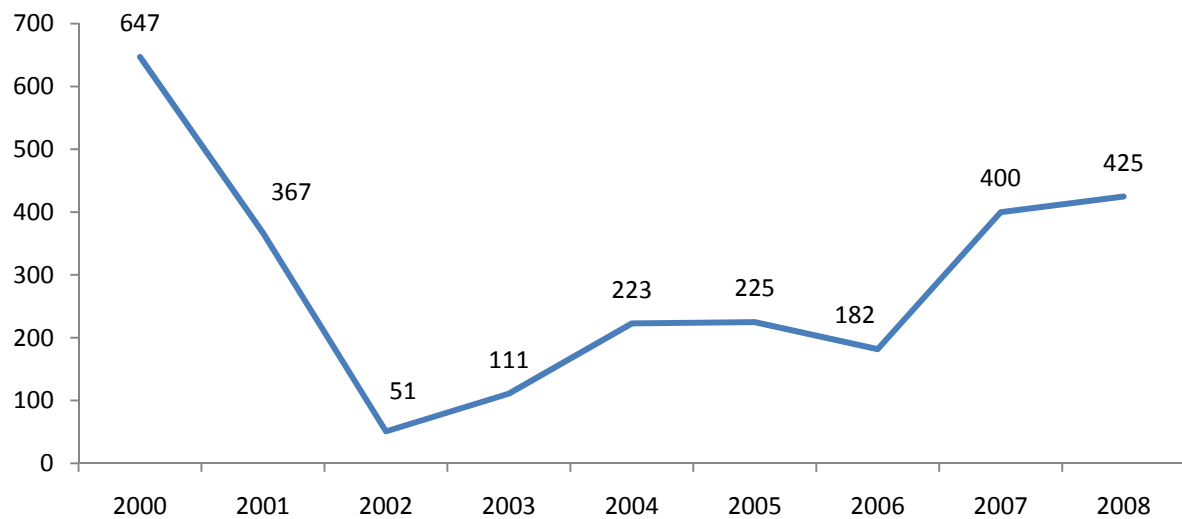
Sixty-three youth participated in various regional and/or state youth stakeholder meetings.

Refugee

The numbers of refugees settling in North Dakota increased by 133% from 2006 to 2008 (Figure 47). In 2007- 2008, the substantial increase in refugee numbers, both in North Dakota and nationally, are due to arrivals supported by the US Department of State. It is anticipated the arrivals will be maintained at this level over the next few years.

The numbers in the trend line do not include secondary migration refugees who resettle in other states and move to North Dakota. On average, there are 165 secondary migration refugees annually. There was a slight increase in secondary migrations with 154 in 2007 to (preparation for) 160 in 2008.

Figure 47. Number of Refugees Entering North Dakota, 2000-2008



North Dakota Refugee Services, 2000-2008.

Adoption

Introduction

The goal of Children and Family Services is to match a child with a permanent placement based on the needs of the child and family. The adoption process is the final step in the continuum of care, with the intent of achieving safety, permanency, and well-being for the child. There are several types of adoption that vary in process while adhering to the goal of permanency. The following section includes demographics of the adoptee population and adoption types with particular attention given to children with special needs. An explanation of the adoption process, adoption typologies, and definitions of adoption terminology are included in the analysis using figures and tables. The data collected throughout this publication were obtained from the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information and Payment System (CCWIPS) and generated through the Adoption Automated Reporting System (AARS).

Each waiting child varies in age, race, gender, special needs, and family background. Waiting children are defined as children in the public welfare system who cannot return to their birth homes due to the termination of parental rights. These children do not have a family identified who will adopt them. Generally speaking, the waiting child population is a sub-population of the foster care system. An adoptee, or an adopted person, is the population of interest in the following data on finalized agency adoptions.

The adoption process is composed of a series of steps that are more complex than the general descriptions listed in this bulletin. Prospective adoptive parents will generally:

- ☐ research different types of adoptions;
- ☐ choose an adoption agency;
- ☐ have an awareness of the fees associated with adoption;
- ☐ fill out an application;
- ☐ complete a home study;
- ☐ experience a waiting period;
- ☐ accept placement of a child for the purposes of adoption;
- ☐ child resides in the home for six months with agency supervision; and
- ☐ complete legal procedures.

All North Dakota adoptions are facilitated through private adoption agencies. An agency adoption is an adoptive placement made by licensed organizations that screen prospective adoptive parents and supervise the placement of children in adoptive homes until the adoption is finalized. Private adoption agencies are generally privately funded, however they can receive public funding through contracts to provide adoption services for children in foster care in North Dakota. A “public agency adoption” is the adoption of children from the foster care system.

Finalized agency adoptions are the data of particular interest to determine the demographics of adoptee children. The finalization process is the final legal step in the adoption process and involves a court hearing, during which the judge orders that the

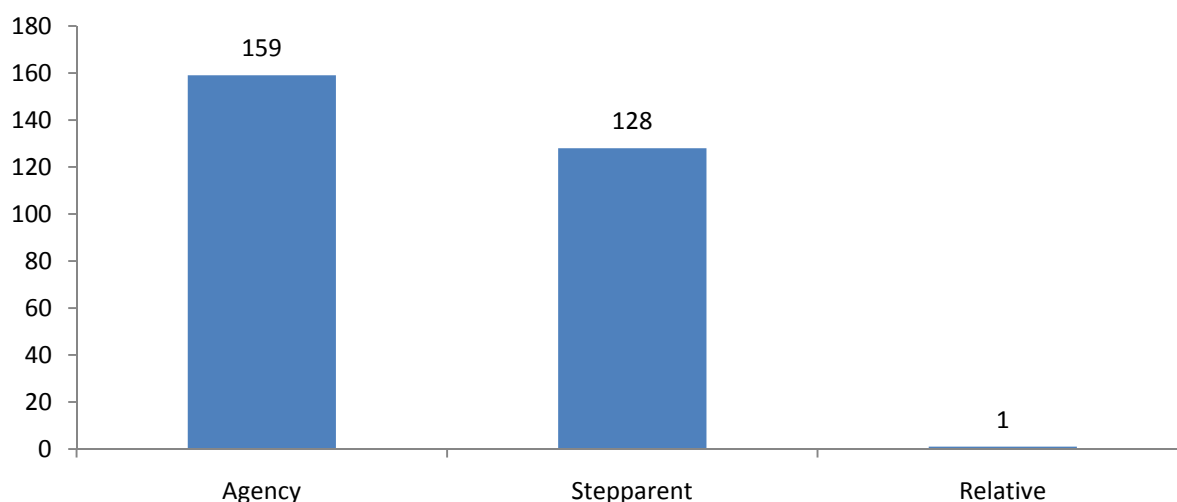
adoptive parents become the child's legal parent. Prior to this legal proceeding, there is a legal requirement that parental rights to the child be terminated through either a voluntary relinquishment by the parent(s) or an involuntary termination by the courts.

North Dakota Adoptions

How many adoptions were finalized in North Dakota in FFY 2007? There were 288 children adopted in North Dakota in 2007. Finalized agency adoptions, the focus of this section, accounted for 55% (157) of all types of adoptions (Figure 48).

Relative and stepparent adoptions are types of adoption that do not fall under the auspices of an agency adoption. The two types of relative adoptions are categorized based on whether or not an adoption agency is a party in the adoption process. For relative non-agency adoptions, the adoption process requires the legal procedures of relinquishment of parental rights and adoption finalization. At no time during the process is the child under the intermediary custody of an agency.

Figure 48. Number of Children by Type of Adoption



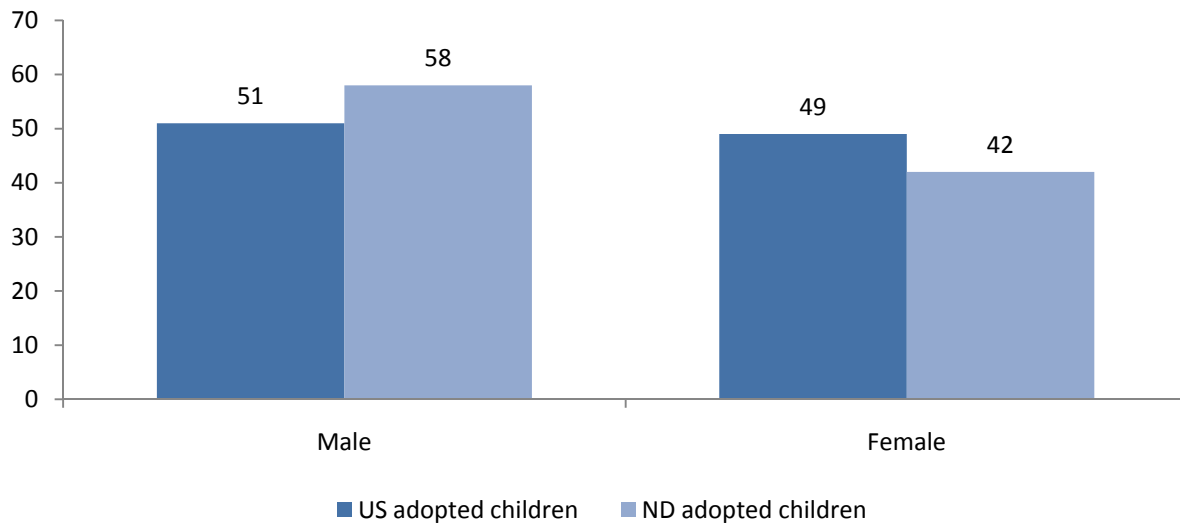
AARS, 2007 (N=288).

North Dakota Finalized Agency Adopted Children

Gender and Adoption

Are females or males more likely to be adopted? Figure 49 illustrates that the gender disparity in adoptions between males (92) and females (67). In FFY 2007, males are more likely than females to be in the foster care system awaiting placement (55%; 45%) and adopted (58%; 42%) in North Dakota.

Figure 49. Percent of Finalized Agency Adoptions in ND & US by Gender

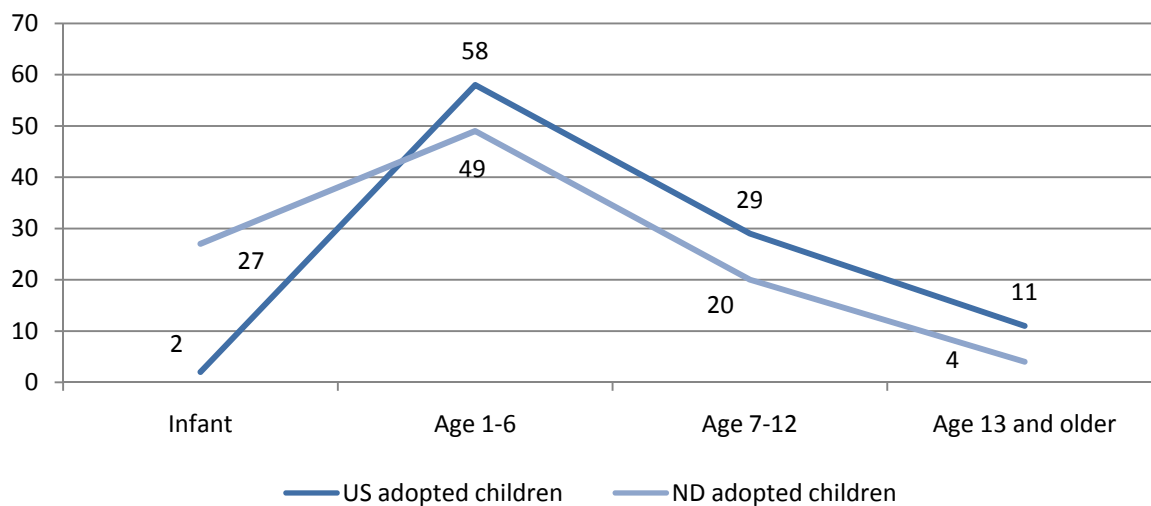


AARS, 2007 (N=159).

Age and Adoption

In North Dakota children under the age of six were more likely (76%) than their older counterparts to be legally adopted through state child placing agencies (Figure 50). In North Dakota, infants represent a sizable (27%) percent of the adoptee population whereas nationally the percent is much lower (2%).

Figure 50. Percent of Adopted Children in ND & US by Age Range

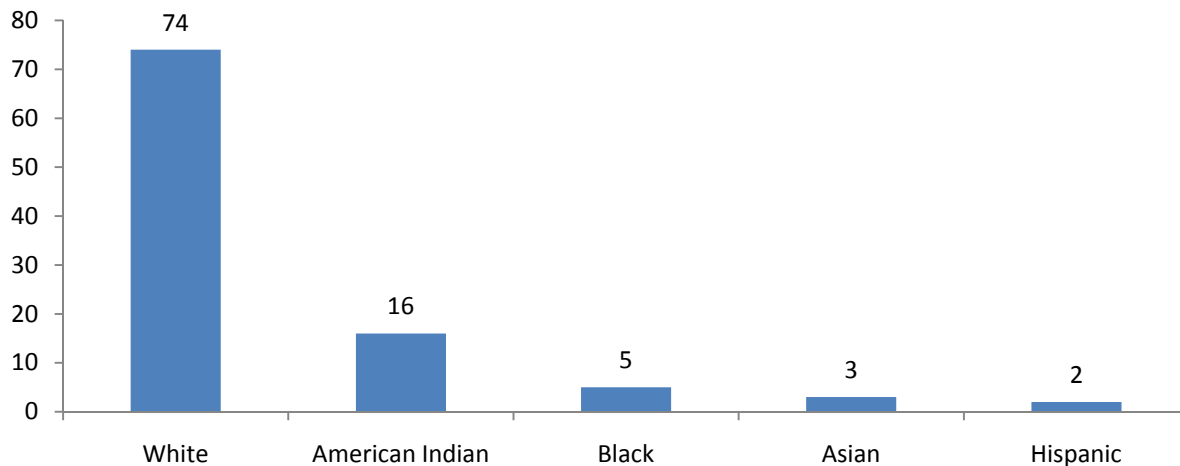


Administration of Childre, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau (FY2005). AARS, 2007 (N=159).

Adoption by Race

Figure 51 shows the racial composition of children whose adoptions are finalized. In 2007, white children were adopted more often than any other race in North Dakota.

Figure 51. Percent of ND Adopted Children by Race



AARS, 2007 (N=159).

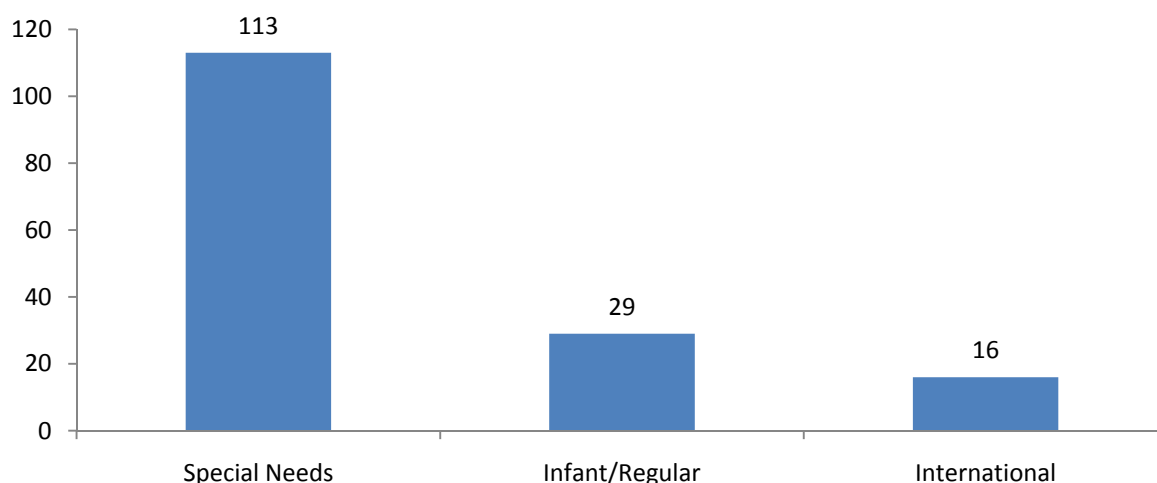
Finalized Agency Adoptions

Agency adoptions (Figure 52) are classified as special needs, infant/regular, international, or identified. The criteria for categorizing children as special needs include the following:

- ☐ the presence of a physical, emotional, or mental disability;
- ☐ the child is high risk for a future physical, emotional, or mental disability as diagnosed by a licensed physician;
- ☐ the waiting child as part of sibling group being placed together for adoption;
- ☐ the waiting child belongs to a minority race; or
- ☐ the waiting child is age seven or older.

An infant/regular adoption is when children are voluntarily placed through an adoption agency by their parent(s). In North Dakota, the majority of regular adoptions involve infants. International adoptions, referred to as foreign adoptions in previous bulletins, pertain to children residing in countries outside the United States. The legal procedures of the adoption typically occur in the child's birth country. Identified adoptions are direct adoptions where the parent(s) have pre-selected an adoptive family. Temporary custody is not granted to an agency in an identified adoption.

Figure 52. Number of Finalized Agency Adoptions by Type



AARS, 2007 (N=158). There was one relative adoption which is not listed.

Special Needs

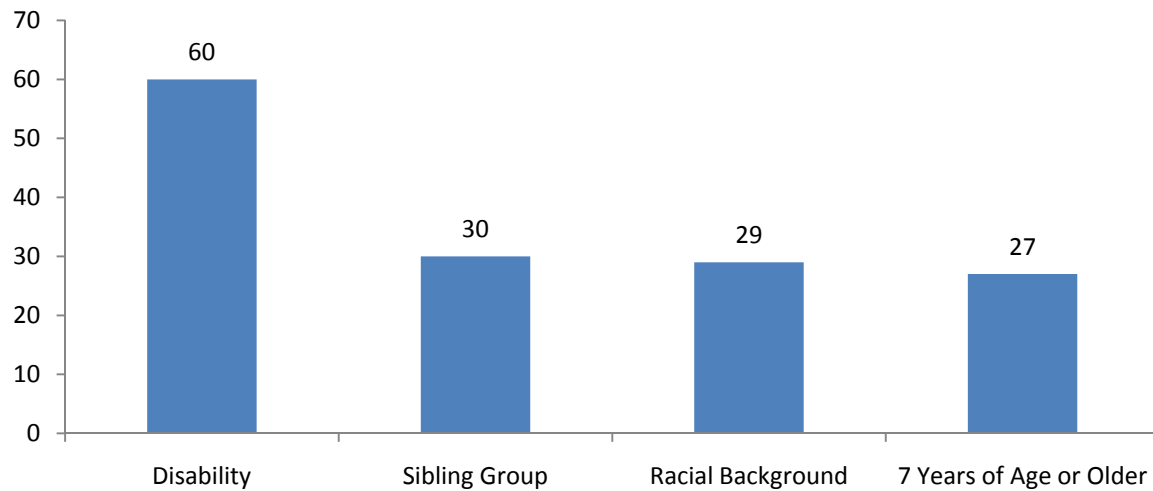
Children with special needs are placed, on average, at the age of 6 years old. Figure 53 shows adoption by special needs type. The total special needs population (113 in Figure 52) does not equal the sum of the special needs categories (Figure 53) because children may be counted more than once (duplicated) if they meet more than one special needs criteria. For example, an adopted child may be counted three times if the child was 10 years old, was being placed with a younger sister as part of a sibling group, and had a learning disability.

In 2007 there were 113 children meeting 146 special needs criteria. The most commonly reported special need is children with disabilities. The disability categories include emotional disturbance, mental retardation, physical disability, visual/hearing impaired, and children who are high risk for a future mental, physical, or emotional disability as diagnosed by a physician. An example of a child at high risk might be a child whose birth parent used alcohol or drugs while pregnant, putting the child at risk for disability in the future.

Adoption assistance is designed to provide adoptive families of any economic level needed social services and medical and financial support to care for children considered difficult to place. Adoption assistance can take three forms: a monthly payment (subsidy) to meet the special and ordinary needs of the child, Medical Assistance as a backup to the adoptive family's private health insurance, and reimbursement for non-recurring adoption expenses (up to \$2,000/child).

Children face a difficult time separating from their parents. If children have siblings, it is critical to keep these siblings together. In 2007, there were 30 adopted children who were part of sibling groups.

Figure 53. Number of Finalized Adoptions by Special Needs Type

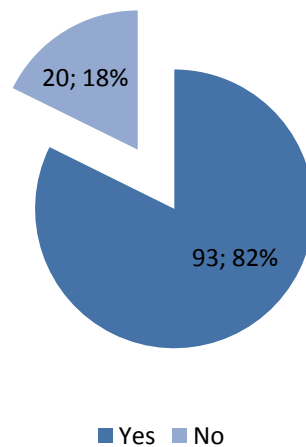


AARS, 2007 (N=146).

Adoption of Children with Special Needs by Foster Parents

How many foster care families adopt their foster children? Foster care parents are more likely to adopt children with special needs than not (Figure 54). Foster parent adoptions are encouraged because the child is already settled into their environment and has established a bond with the foster family.

Figure 54. Adoptions by Foster Parents of Children with Special Needs



AARS, 2007 (N=113).

Children & Family Services: Well-being

- ☐ Head Start & Early Head Start
- ☐ Early Childhood Services

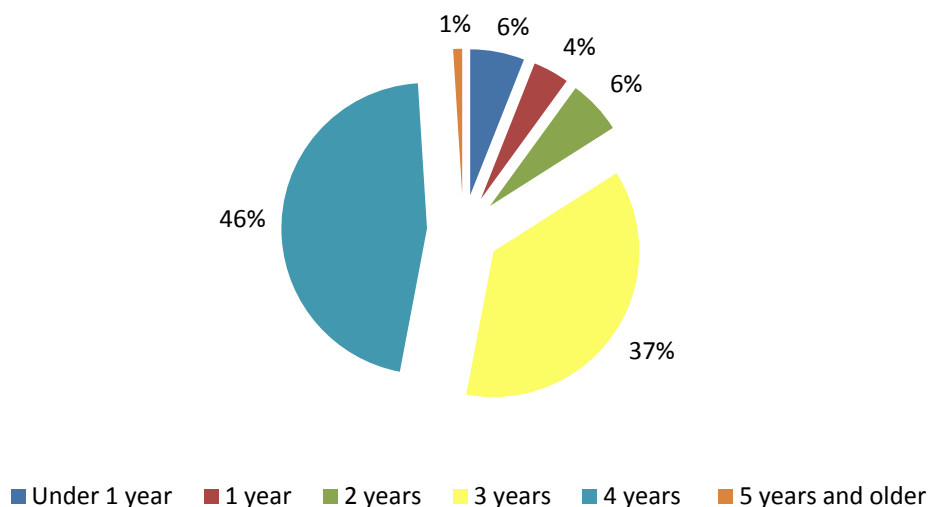
Head Start and Early Head Start

Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive child development programs. Head Start serves children ages 3-5 and their families. Early Head Start serves pregnant women and their families and children from birth to age 3 and their families.

During 2006-2007, the federal Office of Head Start provided early childhood education program funding for 3,533 North Dakota children. Children are eligible to participate in Head Start programs if they are from families that meet the U.S. poverty income guidelines or other criteria that puts them at risk for future school success.

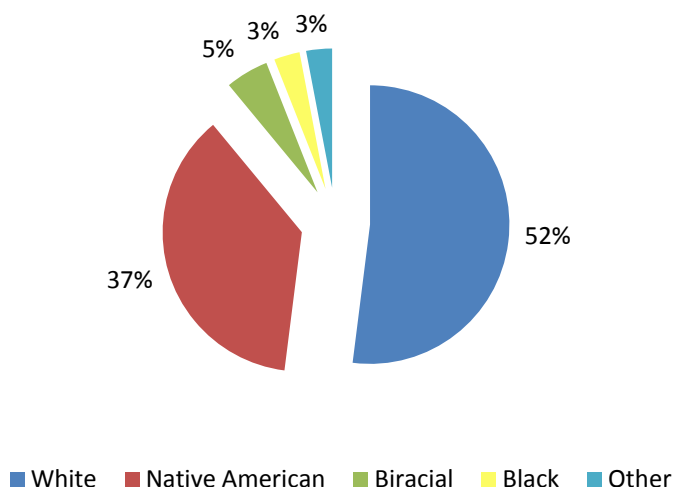
The majority of children (83%) enrolled in Head Start are ages 3-4 (Figure 55). Over half (52%) of children enrolled in Head Start are white and over one third (37%) are Native American (Figure 56).

Figure 55. Percent of Actual Enrollees in Head Start & Early Head Start by Age



Office of Head Start, 2006-2007 PIR dataset.

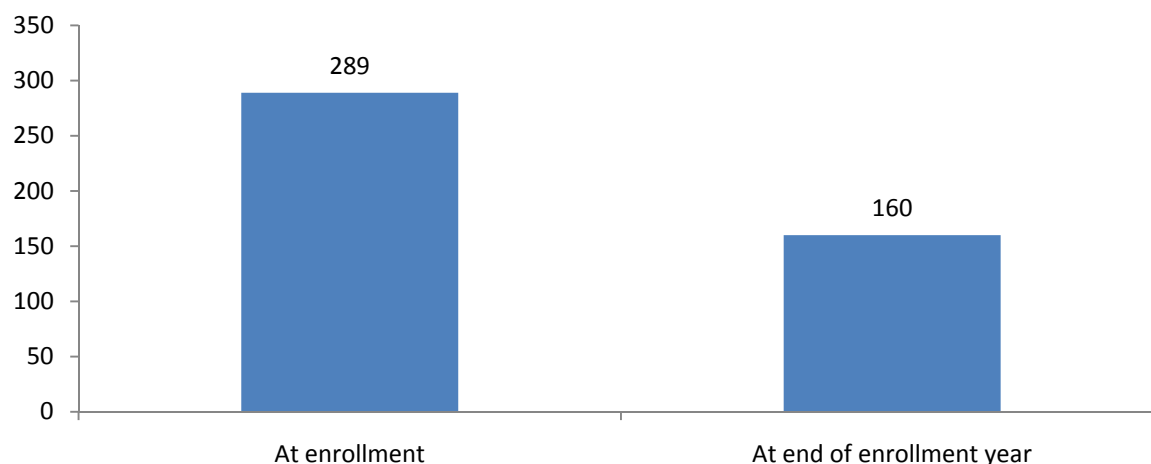
Figure 56. Percent of Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start by Race



Office of Head Start, 2006-2007 PIR dataset.

There were 289 uninsured children in Head Start at their time of enrollment. Forty-five percent (129) obtained health insurance during the 2006-2007 year they were enrolled in Head Start (Figure 57).

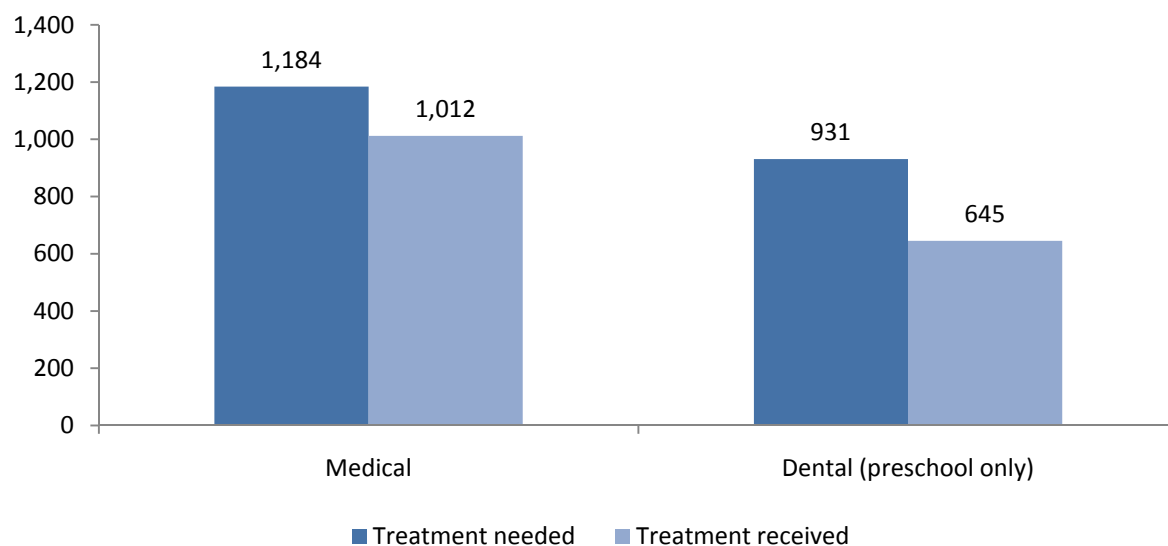
Figure 57. Percent of Uninsured Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start by Time of Year



Office of Head Start, 2006-2007 PIR dataset.

The majority of children enrolled in Head Start received needed medical treatment (85%). Seven out of ten (69%) preschoolers enrolled in Head Start received needed dental care (Figure 58).

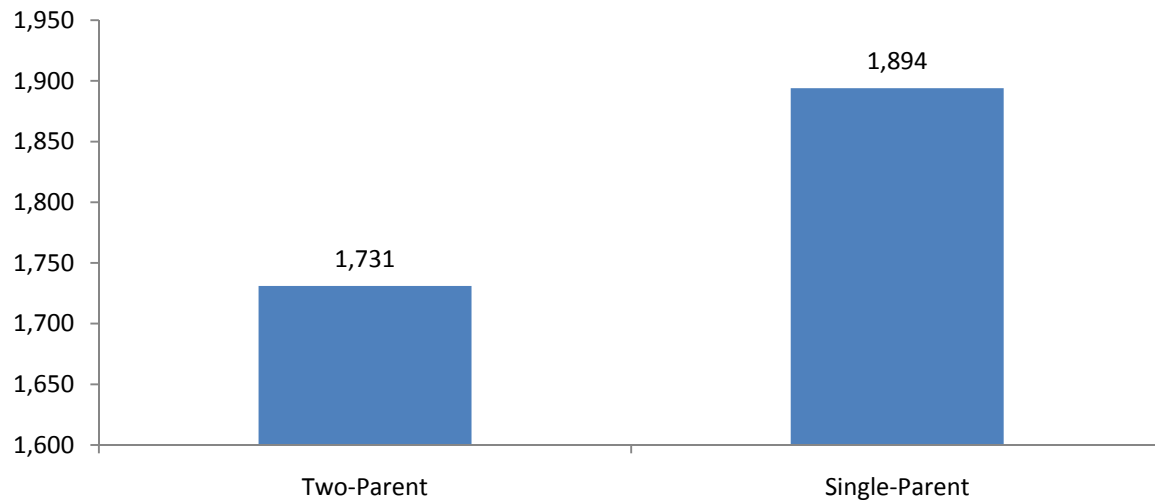
Figure 58. Number of Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start Who Were Diagnosed as Needing Medical or Dental Treatment and Who Received Needed Treatment



Office of Head Start, 2006-2007 PIR dataset.

Single-parent households comprise 52 percent of families with child enrollees in Head Start (Figure 59). The remaining 48 percent of children enrolled in Head Start are from two-parent households.

Figure 59. Families with Children Enrolled in Head Start & Early Head Start by Family Type



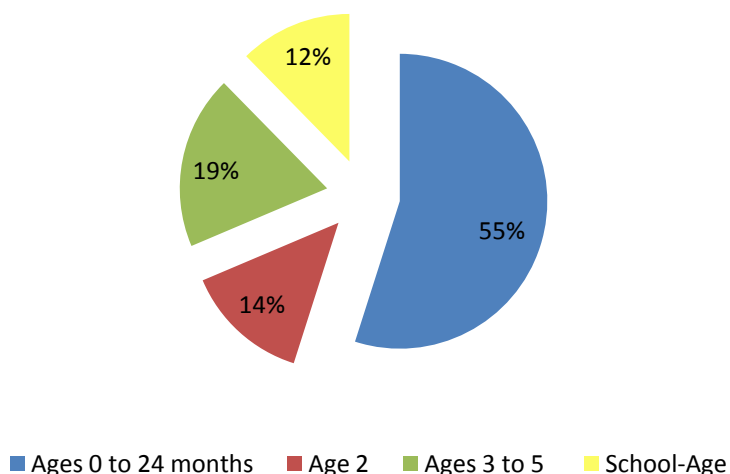
Office of Head Start, 2006-2007 PIR dataset.

Early Childhood Services

The number of North Dakota children potentially in need of child care (82,289) far outweighs the capacity of licensed child care providers (30,502). If all of the child care slots were filled, 37% of the potential children in need of care are being served. The statistics in this section are based on the families that use Child Care Resource and Referral services to search for child care. While not all families use Child Care Resource and Referral this service can be accessed at www.ndchildcare.org.

Figure 60 represents the age of the child in need of care. There were a total of 9,117 requests for child care with over half for the infant through 2 year-old age bracket (55%). Care for school-age children, kindergarteners included, accounted for the smallest percent of referrals (12%). Due to alternative work or time commitments of families 2,116 requests were received for care before 7am, 785 requests for care beyond 6pm, and 520 requests for care on Saturdays or Sundays.

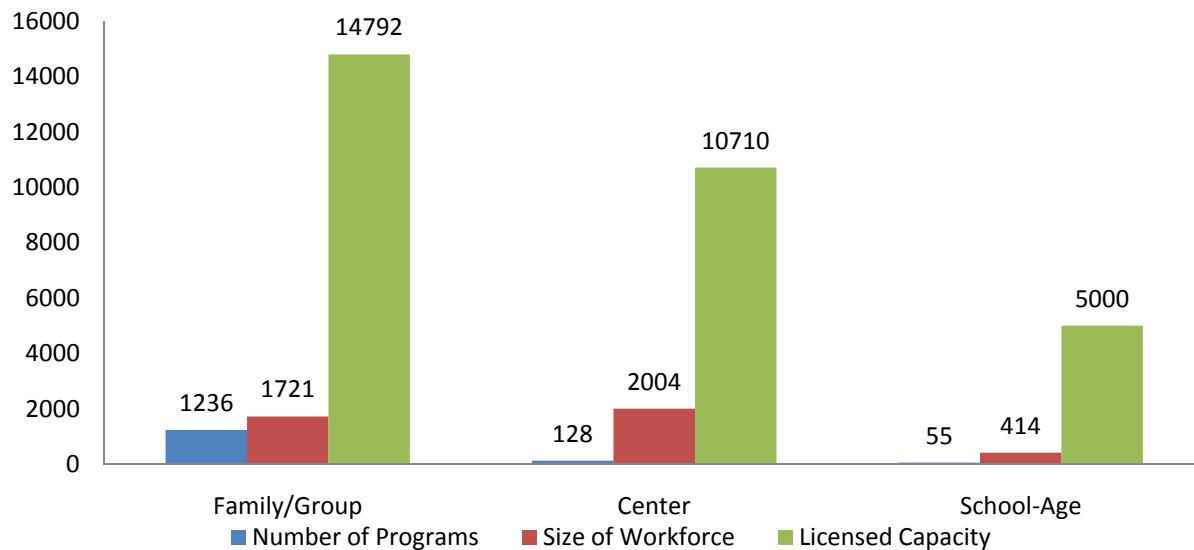
Figure 60. Percent of Referral Requests by Child Age



Child Care Resource and Referral, July 2007-June 2008 (N=9,117).

Child care programs fall into three categories; family-group, center, and school-age. The programs vary in staff-child ratio and the limitations placed on the number and ages of children to be cared for. The majority of programs are family-group (87%) in North Dakota. Family-group has the highest licensed capacity of program types (49%). Centers have the highest number of staff in their workforce which is, on average, 16 per program. The licensed capacity in relationship to size of workforce is 8.6 for family-group, 5.3 for center, and 12.1 for school-age.

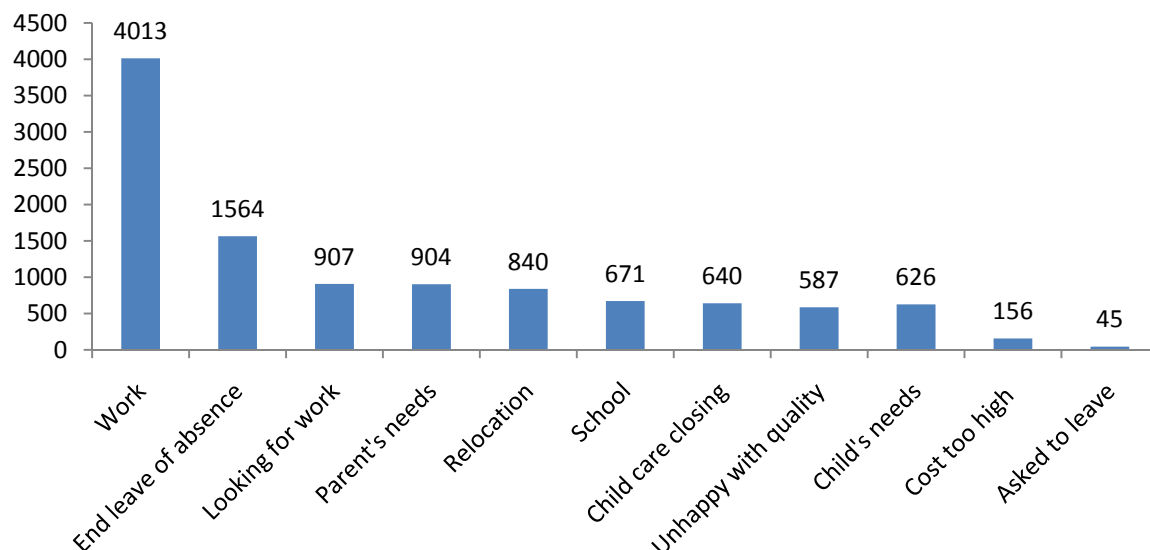
Figure 61. Licensed Child Care Program Type, Workforce, and Capacity



Child Care Resource and Referral, July 2007-June 2008. School-age care numbers reflect only programs licensed as before and after school programs. School-age children are also enrolled in family/group programs and child care centers.

Work is the primary reason (37%) for families to search for child care through Child Care Resource and Referral (Figure 62). Additional common reasons for child care searches are; end leave of absence (14%), looking for work (8%), and parent's needs (8%).

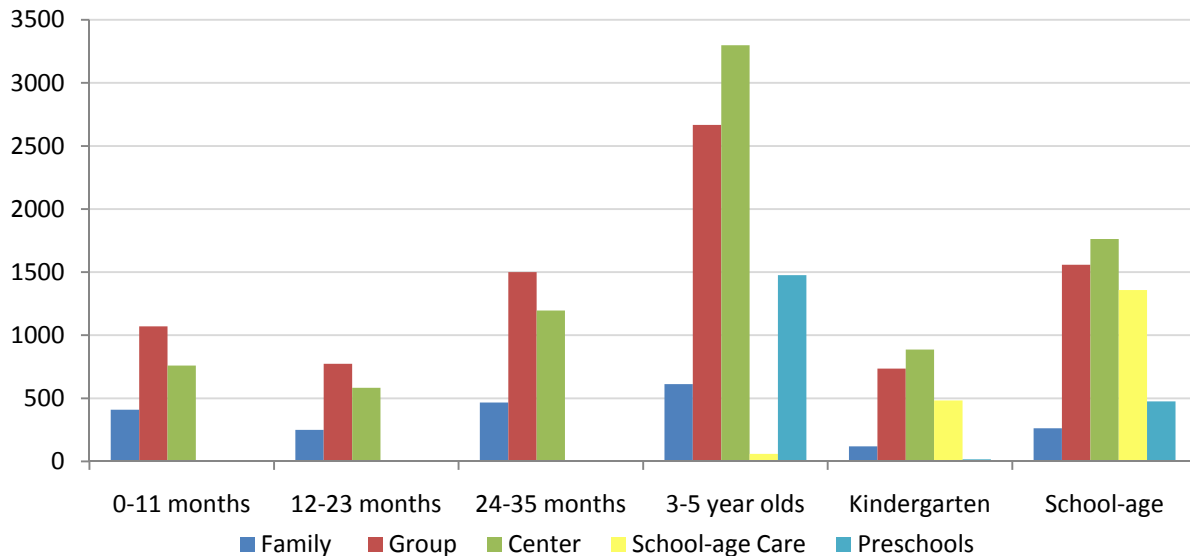
Figure 62. Reasons for Seeking Child Care



Child Care Resource and Referral, July 2007-June 2008.

Figure 63 depicts that children age 3 to 5 are overrepresented in enrollment in centers, group, and preschools. Preschools and school-age care are not shown for children under the age of 3.

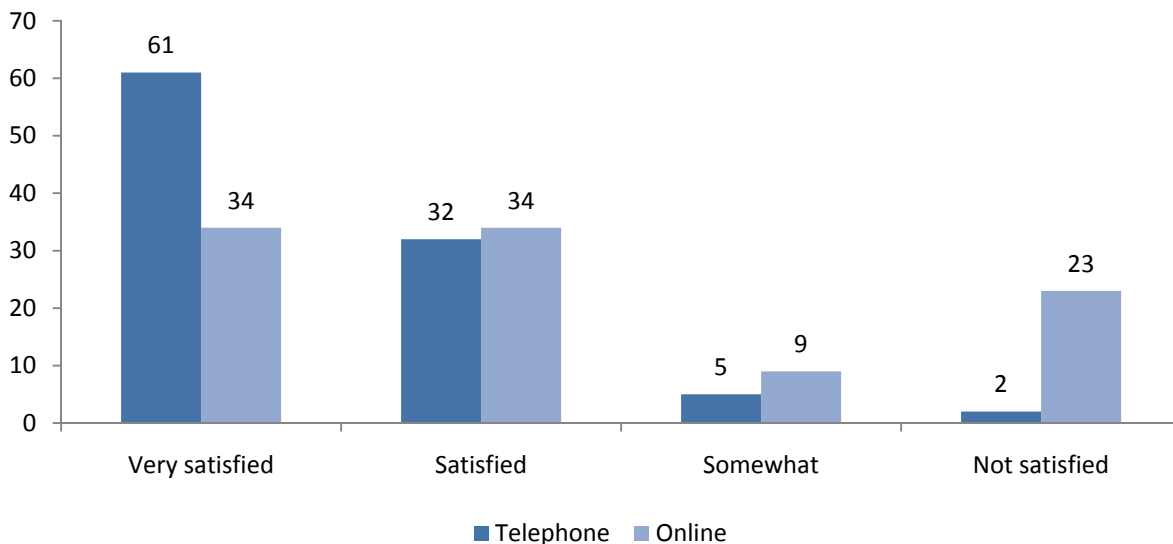
Figure 63. Total Enrollment by License Type



Child Care Resource and Referral, July 2007-June 2008.

Clients utilizing Child Care Resource and Referral via telephone reported greater satisfaction (61%) with child care than those who reported their child care experience online (Figure 64).

Figure 64. Client Level of Satisfaction with Child Care (Percent)



Child Care Resource and Referral, July 2007-June 2008.